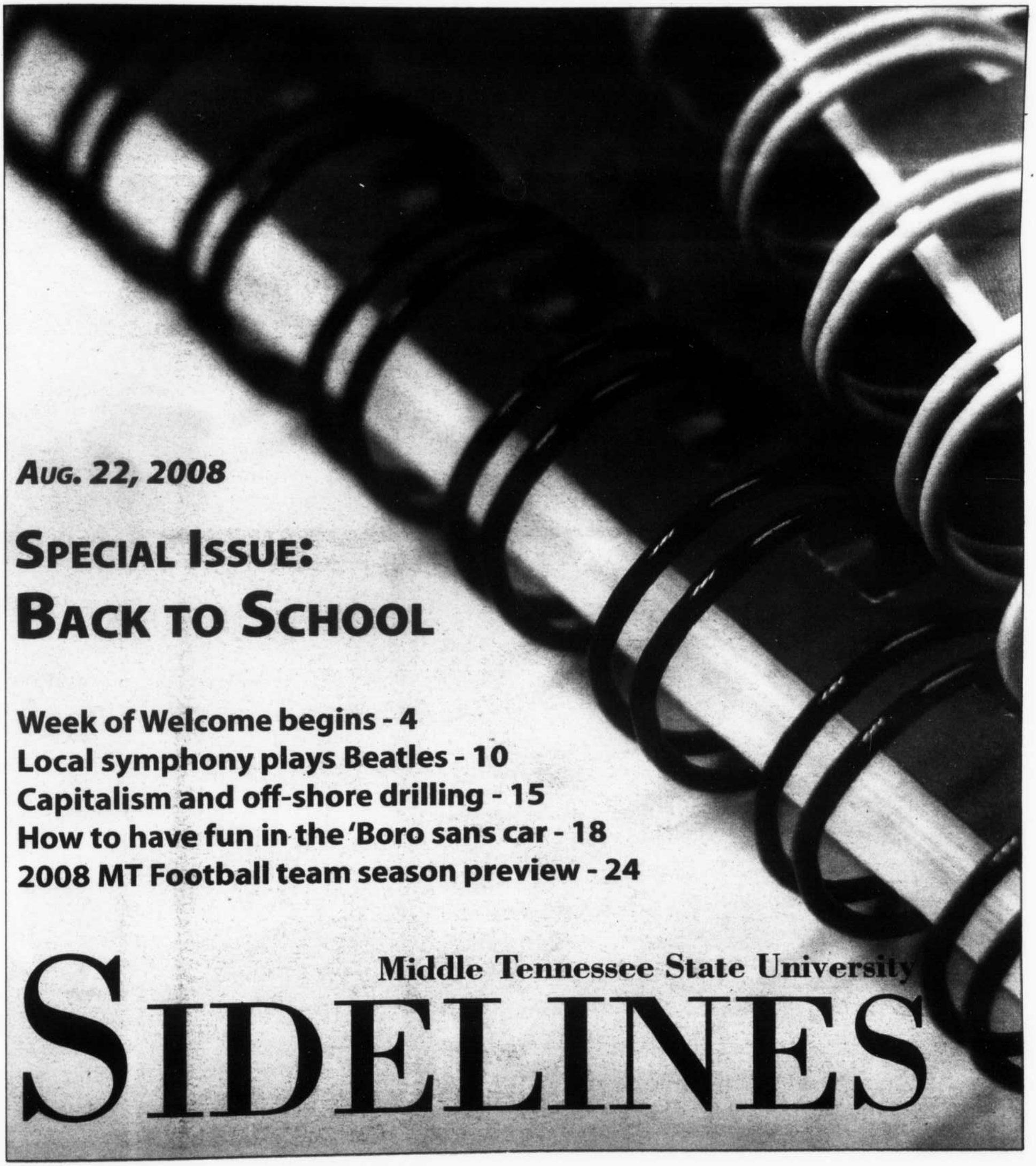

*Aug. 22, 2008*

# Special Issue: Back to School


**Week of Welcome begins - 4**
**Local symphony plays Beatles - 10**
**Capitalism and off-shore drilling - 15**
**How to have fun in the 'Boro sans car - 18**
**2008 MT Football team season preview - 24**



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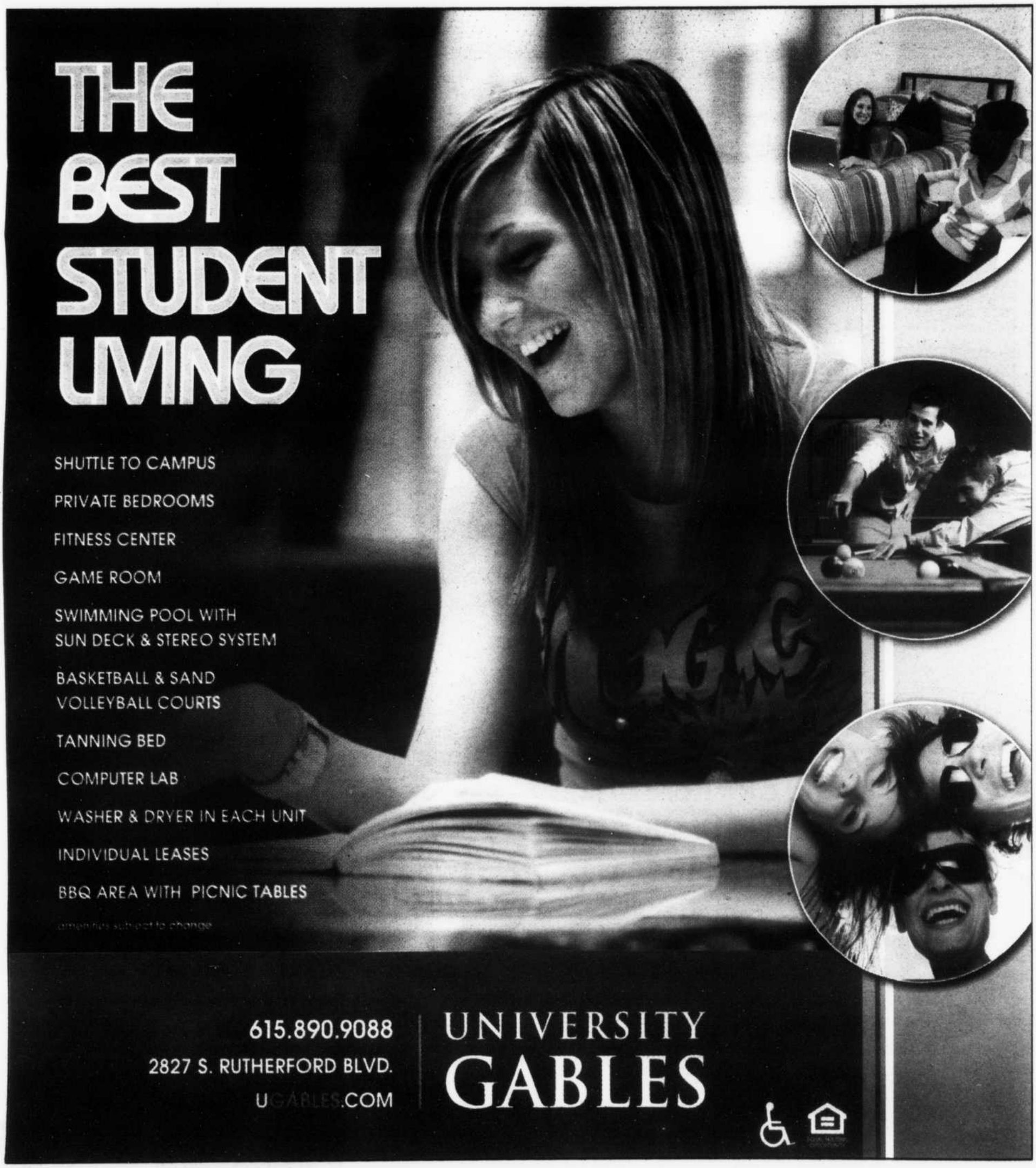
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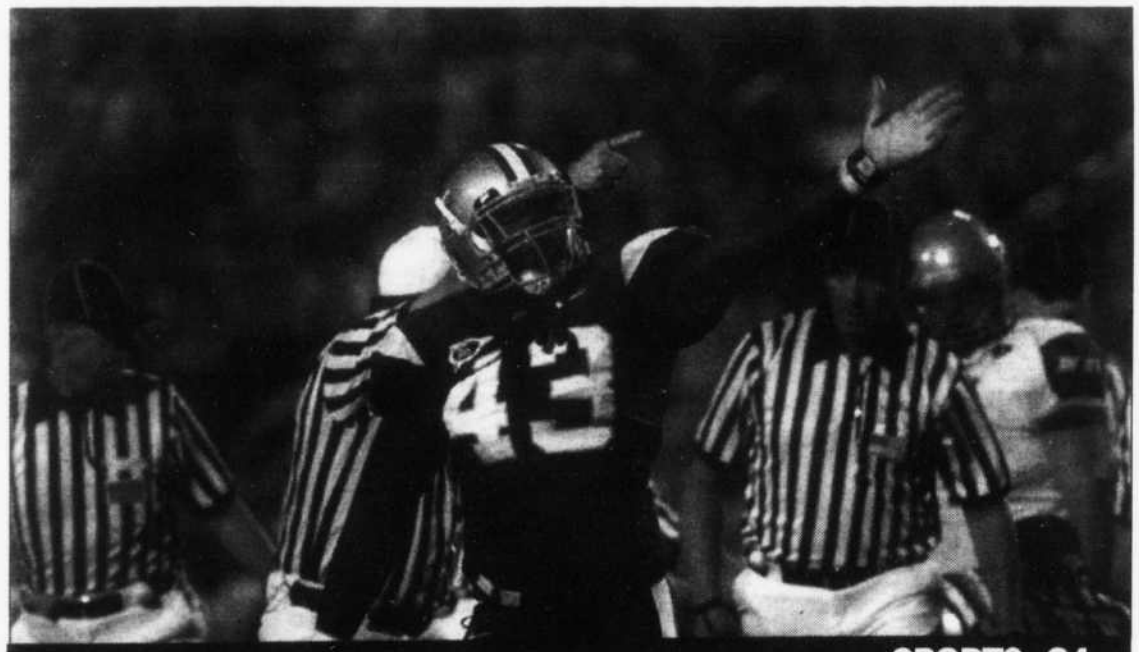
# IN THIS ISSUE

NEWS, 11

## Recreation Center opens new facilities

After long anticipation and months of construction, the Rec Center opens on Aug. 25 to students and faculty. The new expansion includes updated exercise facilities and Student Health Services.



SPORTS, 24

## MT fans look forward to upcoming season

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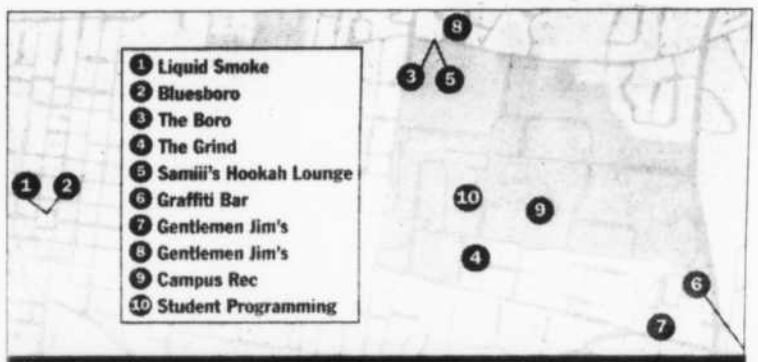


FEATURES, 10

## Without a car and stuck on campus? Don't fret about it.

There is plentty of entertainment within walking distance of the dorms or an apartment for students to enjoy in Murfreesboro.

OPINIONS, 15

## Director of Intercultural and Diversity Affairs greets students

OPINIONS, 16

## One senior anticipates her last year, looks towards future

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# WOW to take students on a ride of a lifetime

By TIFFANY GIBSON
Campus News Editor

Week of Welcome 2008, "The Ride of Your Life," begins Friday and will continue until Sept. 3 with various events occurring on campus all week.

During Friday and Saturday of WOW, incoming freshman will move into dorms with the help of We-Haul members and volunteers.

"We-Haul is a great way for the university community to help welcome freshman and ease the move-in process," said Heather Arrington, assistant director for the office of Leadership and Development. "Freshman are so nervous when they come to college for the first time and We-Haul allows MTSU to greet them as soon as they come onto campus."

After students finish moving in on Friday, dinner and a movie will be provided at the Keathley University Center Courtyard at 6:30 p.m. "Indiana Jones: Raiders of the Lost Ark" will be showing at 8 p.m.

During We-Haul on Saturday, information booths will be available for students from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. in an attempt to inform students of the numerous organizations and activities occurring on campus and provide them with answers about facilities.

Following the information booths, dinner and a street fair will take place behind Corlew Residence Hall at 6 p.m. Activities such as rock climbing and games will be set up for students to participate in.

While most of the food is donated by ARAMARK, the New Student and Family Programs office covers additional food costs.

"It is paid for by our office with the exception of the rock climbing wall, which is sponsored by ROTC [Reserve Officers' Training Corps]," said Robert Patterson, coordinator of New Student and Family Programs.

"These events are crucial because the freshman are able to meet students who are excited about and love MTSU," said Jamie Boyd, senior education and behavioral science major and Student Government Association vice president of administration and public affairs. "These students want to be involved and the new students need to see this enthusiasm."

The SGA will be helping with all of the events during Week of Welcome and an additional pep rally in the Murphy Center on Aug. 26 at 7:30 p.m. before comedian, Mike Birbiglia, performs at 8 p.m.

On Aug. 25, university convocation will be held in the Murphy Center at 2 p.m. During the convocation, deans of various colleges will be introduced as president Sidney McPhee welcomes students and guest speaker, Greg Mortenson.

Mortenson is also the author of the 2008 summer reading selection, "Three Cups of Tea."

Following the convocation, a President's Picnic will be held on Walnut Grove.

Monday, a department fair will take place on the KUC from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. and free cookies and lemonade will be passed out at noon.

A pep rally will be held in Walnut Grove on Aug. 28 before the first home football game against Troy.

"The pep rally in Walnut Grove is to kickoff the football season and boost the morale of the students and community," Boyd said.

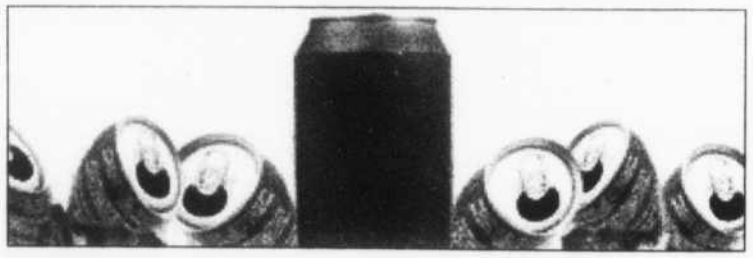
After a Labor Day holiday, a Volunteer Fair will be held on Sept. 2 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the KUC courtyard, while a student organization fair will take place on the same location and time on Sept. 3.

Unlike previous years, the Blue Raider Bash will not be held in the field behind Cummings Residence Hall due to renovations.

"I wish the Blue Raider Bash could have occurred, but the renovations will be beneficial to the entire MTSU community," Boyd said.

"There are a lot of changes taking place on campus right now," Arrington said. "Of course, We-Haul will be affected, but the university is working together to make move-in as smooth as possible under the circumstances."

# MT signs new contract with Pepsi after 10 years with Coke



Graphic By Alicia Wilson, Production Manager

By JOHNATHON SCHLEICHER
Staff Writer

Pepsi products have replaced Coca-Cola on campus in an attempt to bring in more revenue to help with university funds.

After holding a 10-year partnership with the Coca-Cola bottling company, MTSU has switched over to Pepsi in a five-year contract said to be worth $2.1 million.

The campus started replacing the vending machines before the contract was actually finalized, showing that the business decision was already made.

"Our contract with Coke was going to expire, and by the void policy we had to re bid the service," said John Cothern, vice president of finance. "Pepsi made the best financial proposal and we thought that they had good products and services."

According to Cothern, the decision to make the switch from Coke to Pepsi was primarily a business decision.

"Both Pepsi and Coke made a sponsorship contribution on top of the commission," Cothern said. "Part of it is from the promotion we do with the campus. We required that in our bid specs."

Overall, Cothern said that Pepsi was chosen because it adds more commissions on sales.

Pepsi vending machines on campus is not necessarily a new experience for MTSU, said Cothern.

"We decided to make the change to Pepsi because before our tenure with Coke, Pepsi was the one that was here," Cothern said.

Chris Massaro, athletic director, said the switch to Pepsi would better the university as a whole.

"We are developing a deeper financial interest from Pepsi than Coke has delivered, and we are getting better trade with Pepsi, with Gatorade and in quality," Massaro said. "We are gaining quite a bit, which helps the campus in general and with university funding."

Massaro also said that he was excited about the switch because MTSU was ready for a new partner to do great things with.

"Both sides had a chance to bid on it, but clearly Pepsi was financially superior," Massaro said.

With the change of brands, there is bound to be students and faculty who have loyalties to either brand. Cothern has heard multiple thoughts on the switch.

"Well I have had comments both ways, so you are going to get a little of both sides," Cothern said. "Even from my own office, one person says they like Pepsi and are glad for the change while the other is saying they liked Coke better."

"Pepsi is better because the Coke machines didn't offer Mountain Dew," said Scott Holbrook, senior political science major. "I like getting all jacked up on Mountain Dew."

Samantha Davis, freshman nursing major, said that she enjoyed Pepsi because she was from up north, where Pepsi was more predominant.

"The few times I have been on campus, I have enjoyed a Pepsi," Davis said. "It is not like everywhere else in Tennessee where there is Coke."

# Budget cuts cause increase in tuition

## Enrollment statistics and students' financial situations suffer due to an increase in fees, tuition and the loss of $6 million

By TIFFANY GIBSON
Campus News Editor

MTSU university funds for the 2008-2009 school year will be cut by over $6 million as a part of the $56 million being cut from public colleges across the state of Tennessee.

Out of the $6,156,000 being cut, $3.9 million will be deducted from various departments such as Academic Affairs, Business and Finance, Development and University Relations, Information Technology, President, Student Affairs and Athletics.

"When we knew we were going to have cuts Sidney McPhee asked each division, department and college to make a 5 percent budget cut plan," said John Cothern, senior vice president. "Obviously, we are not cutting every department, division or college by 5 percent, but that gives us the scenario to see what we would do."

"This was an ongoing process from the middle of May until June 30."

An amount of $2.25 million is being cut from Academic Affairs, which is the largest amount being deducted in one department. However, the same amount is also being deducted from pool accounts.

Cothern said cuts in Academic Affairs include unfilled positions, operating, travel and professional development funds.

A 6.1 percent tuition increase has also been put into effect this year, making in-state tuition $2,150 per semester for 12 or more hours plus a program and service fee of $699.

"We have a 6 percent tuition increase, which will be nearly enough money to put it all back in the same place if we wanted to," Cothern said. "That's only $5.7 million so you see we're already $400,000 behind going into the semester."

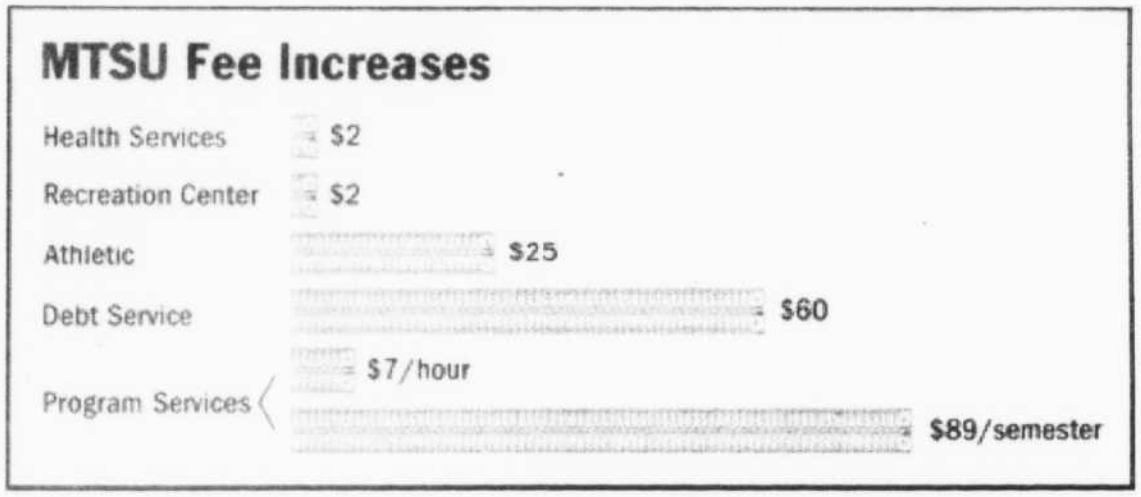
In addition to being $400,000 behind, the university is also required to cover fixed costs such as tuition discounts, graduate assistant fees, fixed cost increases made to the library, utility costs increases, faculty promotions, fringed benefit costs from previous years and salary increases.

As a result of the budget cuts and tuition increase, department fees have also increased. The debt service fee is now $60, while the athletic department has increased its fee to $25. There has also been a $2 increase in both health services and recreation center fees.

The department of music has increased its fee for special instrument lessons from a professor or instructor.

The fee for student housing has increased as well, which is primarily because of food and electricity.

However, the fee for housing and food do not receive state funding; therefore, these services are forced to raise money in order to meet their budgets, and are not affected by budget cuts.




Graphic By Alicia Wilson, Production Manager

Unfortunately, summer 2008 enrollment decreased dramatically – 7.1 percent – due to the budget cuts and tuition increase.

"Nationwide, summer enrollment has been decreasing in the last few years, and we have been experiencing a decrease in enrollment, but it was more significant this year," said Kaylene Gebert, executive president and provost. "One reason clearly is the cost of gas for students to commute, and students might have worked part time and are now working full time in the summer to earn funds needed to return to school."

> **"I don't think you are going to see a reduction in any of our services as a result of our cuts."**
>
> **Gene Fitch**
> Associate vice president for Student Affairs and dean of Student Life

According to Gebert, online courses have become more popular with the students for various reasons.

"With tuition increasing, we are definitely concerned about enrollment," said Gebert. "When we look at this, we have always done well recruiting incoming freshman, but we are very focused on the retention of students that come back as sophomores, juniors and seniors because a lot of our students don't come back."

Cleaning services have been cut by 5.1 percent and will affect campus facilities, particularly faculty offices.

"They will take out trash and clean bathrooms everyday, but will clean faculty offices only once a week," Cothern said. "They will clean classrooms and pick up garbage every day for the most part."

The second highest amount being cut from a department – $345,385 – is coming from the Office of Student Affairs.

"Student Affairs is going to be looked at for cuts just like everyone else," said Gene Fitch, associate vice president for Student Affairs and dean of Student Life. "I don't think you are going to see a reduction in any of our services as a result of our cuts."

Fitch said that the office of Student Affairs had operated on tight budgets in the past five or six years ago and will continue to work with them in the future.

"The only program that is being moved or relocated is our cooperative education program," Fitch said. "It is going to be incorporated under career and employment center, so the co-op program is not going away but rather will be supervised from another area."

Despite the budget cutbacks, Fitch said that the positions in Greek Life and other offices would not go unfilled. He said that Danny Kelley, associate dean of Student Life, is willing to use his experience and Greek background to help serve the office, while Caroline Rutledge has been hired as a temporarily replacement for Carrie Youell, previous coordinator of Greek Life.

Overall, no faculty members will lose their jobs because of the budget cuts.

"There are a few positions that were eliminated but no one is losing a job or being terminated," Cothern said. "We are finding those out of a job a new position on campus."

# New associate dean of Student Life will tend to Greek Affairs

Photo By Alex Moorman, Assistant News Editor
**Houses on Greek Row prepare for Fall 2008 recruitment.**

**By Alex Moorman**
Assistant News Editor

Despite the absence of a director and coordinator, Greek Life will have some help this fall from Danny Kelley, the newly hired associate dean of Student Life.

"We knew Carrie had been looking for another position for some time now," said Gene Fitch, associate vice president for Student Affairs and dean of Student Life. "It was no surprise that she was going and she was very particular in her search, which lead to what took so long for her to make her move."

Carrie Youell, the previous coordinator of Greek Life, left at the end of the summer semester to pursue a career with the Greek system at the University of Tennessee Knoxville.

"We ended up hiring someone on an hourly position to work with Carrie to kind o learn what was going on, so that when our new associate dean arrived, we would have someone who had been working up there that would help in the transition," Fitch said. "The plan at this point is to look at the coordinator's position and begin the search for someone to fill her position."

Kelley said one of the objectives would be to actively recruit qualified candidates to apply for the director's position. The last Greek Life director, Gentry McCreary, left MTSU in 2006 and his position was never filled. Another search for a Greek Life director is currently underway.

During the interim, Kelley will work closely with the Greek community to ensure they have the support they need.

"I think we need someone in charge of Greek Life, like Carrie Youell, because for all of the organizations to come together and talk about issues we need someone to mediate," said Nic Bucinell, senior recording industry major and former Tau Kappa Epsilon president. "We need an unbiased figure in our meetings to help us better improve our fraternities and Greek Life as a whole."

Fitch said he thinks Kelley is going to be helpful since the Office of Greek Life have no full-time employees.

"He's had 10 years of immediate work in Greek Affairs and around 13 all together," Fitch said.

It's easy to say there is no cause for concern, Fitch said, because Kelley is well prepared with his background, but its a lot more difficult convincing the students.

"I've talked to a couple of students about the situation and how we are going to deal with it," Fitch said. "It's natural for them to feel [uncomfortable] because recruitment is coming up, but I have no doubt he can handle it and will handle it."

Bucinell said that he wasn't aware that Kelley would be here, but hopefully he would be able to pull the load that Carrie left behind.

"We really need someone to look out for our interests and without a Greek Life director I don't know who is going to do that," Bucinell said. "The organization has

GREEK, PAGE 7

## GREEK
FROM PAGE 6

so many plans, but without a director I just don't see how any of those things are going to happen."

In addition to being a member of Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity, Kelley has extensive Greek life experience. As an undergraduate, he served as chapter president. Since graduating, he has served as a chapter advisor, house director and chairman of Greek alumni boards.

> **"I think a permanent seat in that office will make a huge difference, but we haven't had the permanent leadership to guide the office."**
>
> **Gene Fitch**
> Associate vice president for Student Affairs and dean of Student Life.

He was also employed as the director of Risk Management and Insurance Services for his national fraternity headquarters.

"For the past 13 years, I have worked directly with Greeks as the director of Greek life on two college campuses," Kelley said. "My professional background is heavily grounded in Greek life."

Kelley said that in working with Greeks on their recruitment efforts, there are several approaches that are important.

"First, we have to figure out what current recruitment practices are being used and what is working and where we are falling short," Kelley said.

**It is also important to determine why more students are not joining Greek organizations.**

"This can partly be accomplished by surveying our non-Greek students regarding their perceptions of Greek life with one of the open-ended questions being, 'why are you not a member of a Greek organization,'" Kelley said.

"If we don't know how our non-Greek population feels about the product [Greek membership] being offered, we are playing guessing games as to how we market Greek life and what needs to be changed to make the Greek experience more attractive to non-joiners," Kelley said.

Fitch said that during recruitment Kelley's role would be to work with the fraternities and get the word out about the benefits of joining such organizations.

"Kelley will help because he has that background and he can work with them," Fitch said.

Fitch said that he thinks the reason for Greek recruitment numbers being down is that the position of Greek Life director is constantly changing.

"I've been here for 11 years and in that 11 years there have been seven searches for director of Greek Life, so that should tell you something," Fitch said. "I think a permanent seat in that office will make a huge difference. We just haven't had the permanent leadership to guide the office."

Fitch said recruitment just goes in cycles like everything else, but the university needs to have permanent staff members in place.

"For a campus this size we should be at 12 percent or 15 percent [students who are members of Greek organization], but for a number of years we've been at 7 percent," Fitch said.


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Photo Courtesy Of Associated Press
**DeFoe talks to reporters outside of a Knoxville courthouse.**

# Confederate flag court case ends in a mistrial

**By BYRON WILKES**
Community News Editor

First Amendment rights of high school students were put to the test as a federal jury failed to reach a verdict in a lawsuit between Tommy DeFoe and the Anderson County School Board.

The all-white, seven-member jury could not come to a decision, and U.S. District Judge Tom Varlan declared a mistrial.

DeFoe, a student at Anderson County High School, was suspended for violating the dress code because he wore a belt buckle bearing the battle flag that most people associate with the Confederate States of America.

The stars and bars pattern that so many associate as the Confederate flag is actually only one of over a hundred patterns used as flags at various times and places by the South during the Civil War. Nonetheless, the stars on blue bars against the red background have come to symbolize decades of racial hatred and violence.

"Frankly, we did not anticipate the amount of hype they [Anderson County School Board] put into this," said Kirk Lyons, attorney for DeFoe. "They shamelessly played the race card in trying to insinuate that it would somehow be offensive in a situation where it was clearly wasn't and there was zero disruption."

Lyons represented DeFoe in asserting that wearing clothing bearing a Confederate symbol is perfectly acceptable free speech in school as protected by the First Amendment. The ruling in this case is particularly important because it would give a direction for the argument concerning whether or not it is constitutional speech to wear the battle flag of the Confederacy in schools.

"The question comes down to 'Is Tommy responsible,"

DEFOE, PAGE 10

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## DEFOE
FROM PAGE 9

said Lyons. "Four of the jurors in the case were northerners, and only one of the seven jurors couldn't come to a decision. Our perception of the seven jurors is that most of them were willing to side with Tommy."

The Anderson County School Board and several other county education officials disagree with Lyons' statements, and believe that any encroachment on the comfort zone of even one student is sufficient to act on school policy.

"I think everyone in Tennessee knows we certainly have had problems with racial tensions in the past, and that our district is rather small," said John Burrell, Anderson County school board member. Burrell is one of several county officials involved in the lawsuit.

"The reason we did not specifically name the Confederate flag or Ku Klux Klan or the Black Panthers in any dress code or policy is because there was the possibility we would be leaving something out that might offend someone," said Burrell. "If something is offensive to a single student, we [the school] are responsible for removing it. from the learning environment for the sake of that student and all others."

Both sides claim victory in the judge's ruling of a mistrial, but the long-term repercussions of this case remain to be seen.

"Yeah, I do believe it was a victory because the board policy remains intact in terms of the dress code," said Burrell. "We would not allow students to possess or use alcohol or cigarettes, and in the same sense we will not allow them to do something that is illegal from the school's position."

"We believe that the other side very nearly lost this case, and we'll be happy to keep going," said Lyons. "They [Anderson County School Board] were cocky and arrogant enough not to settle, and most of their arguments consisted of smoke and mirrors."

Tommy DeFoe could not be reached for comment.

# Symphony covers Beatles' classics

By FAITH FRANKLIN
Assisstant News Editor

A performance, engaging all ages of Beatles fans, will be held this evening, Aug ust 22.

The Murfreesboro Symphony Orchestra will perform an encore presentation of last year's successful Beatles tribute: "Retromadness: The Music of the Beatles"

The concert will begin at 8 p.m. at World Outreach Church, 1921 New Salem Road in Murfreesboro.

Jeffery Reed, conductor for the MSO, is confident that the concert will be of interest to a variety of ages.

Last season was Reed's inaugural year, and the Beatles tribute received great reviews. Reed decided to begin this season with the tribute.

"I wanted to give those people who missed it last year an opportunity to see it," Reed said.

Having the Beatles concert at the beginning of the season "is a very energetic way to kick off the season," said J. Brooks Christol, MTSU graduate and public relations coordinator for orchestra. "It is also very indicative of the different style of music that the MSO has as opposed to the stereotypical orchestra has."

"We don't perform elevator music and from the very first concert of the season, through the last concert, [the music] is not something that you would expect to come form the symphony," Christol said.

The performance will feature the Rewinders, a band composed of nine musicians that were put together by Reed to perform some of the biggest hits from the 60s and 70s.

"A lot of people don't know that the Beatles used an orchestra on many of their recordings; they were one of the first groups to do that," Reed said. "That's [just] one of the reasons why they were so unique."

With the combination of the MSO and the Rewinders, "we are trying to recreate what the Beatles did on [their] recordings," Reed said.

Reed stresses the importance of attending a live concert.

"There is nothing like being with other people who are enjoying the music and connect with the performers on stage, and the sound will always be better than a recording," Reed said. "It's kind of like the difference between watching a movie and watching a play."

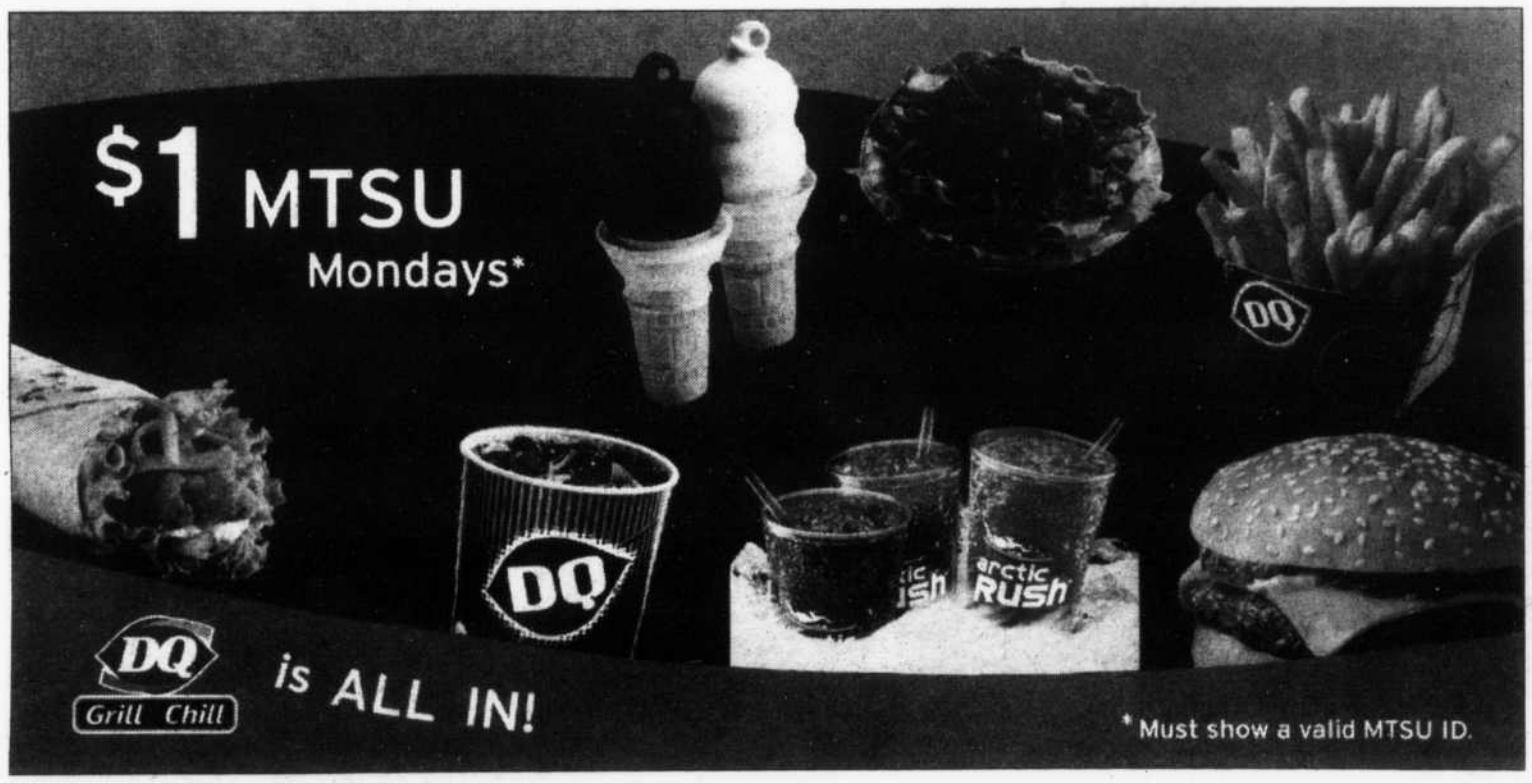
The music of the Beatles sends a message that almost any age bracket can relate to.

"Although they broke up in the 1970s, their music is still very much relevant," Reed said.

The audience members that lived during the Beatle's era left last year's concert "saying that it felt like they were taken back to their teenage years," Christol said.

The younger generation had a positive response as well, "because their love for the Beatles, and their appreciation for what they did for music," Christol said. "The Beatles are trans-generational."

Although it is not possible to see the Beetles, "this is the next best thing," Reed said. Tickets for the concert are available online at murfreesborosymphony.com, or by calling the MSO office at (615)-898-1862. The price for the tickets is $35.




**For more information about other events, please visit us online at *mtsusidelines.com***

# Rec Center expands with new facilities

By KERRI MARTIN
Contributing Writer

The Recreation Center and Health Services will hold their grand opening celebration for students to explore the newly expanded Recreation Center on Aug. 27 from 3 p.m. until 9 p.m.

"Rock the Rec Celebration" will offer demonstration classes in fitness, kayak, scuba and wall climbing. There will be food provided for students and guests, as well as musical performances from live bands.

"I'm excited because it has taken so long for them to build it," said Matt Rotoni, freshman recording industry major. "I wonder what the heck they're doing in there."

"It is a great time for students, staff and even families to come check out all the Rec offers," said Josh Farmer, senior marketing major.

Ray Wiley, associate director of the Rec Center, said he is excited to see students' reactions to the expansion.

"We've always known we needed to expand in certain areas," Wiley said. "More space means more programs, which leads to more student involvement."

The lobby of the Rec Center splits off into three hallways leading to three new and expanded facilities.

"More room takes away lines and waiting to use services," Wiley said. "This eliminates stress that the everyday college student doesn't need any more of."

The recreation area has been expanded in many different ways, including a 4,000 square feet addition to the weight room, which will house 150 new pieces of equipment.

A dance/sport room and cardio room has also been added, while the meeting rooms upstairs has been expanded to provide a less hectic area that is easier to work in.

In addition to the new expansions, a higher form of security called biometric hand scanner is now being used to enter the Rec Center.

In order to obtain access to the facility, students must enter their "M" number on the machine and place their right hand in between the grooves. The scanner is designed to measure students' right hands to make sure the number matches. Once the process is complete, access will be granted to go through the turnstiles.

"I would definitely like to use the Rec Center in the future," said Emma Stickel, sophomore mass communication major. "The fact it's going to be finished and finally offering all the new services is the best part."

The Outdoor Services has been improved and will allow students to talk with an outdoor staff and plan hiking, biking and rock climbing trips. Another feature of this service is the student can rent equipment for the trips they plan for a fraction of the price. The staff will also load up equipment at the three loading docks located behind the office.

"The Outdoor Pursuits is one of the best services on campus," said Josh McKenzie, MTSU alumnus. "The university has put a great amount of time and money into improving the facilities and should be realized by all students."

The Health Services office has also been relocated into the Rec Center. The new offices will house a student health clinic and a pharmacy open to all students.

"I'm glad that Health Services is in the Rec building now with an easy to get to pharmacy," said Kayla Watson, freshman business major. "I think it will make things a lot easier on students."

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Photo By Alex Moorman, Assistant News Editor
**A car circles the newly built roundabout with ease.**

Photo By Tiffany Gibson, Campus News Editor
**Students work out in the new cardio room located on the second floor of the Rec Center.**


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# Under construction

*The following is an update of all construction projects completed or currently in progress at MTSU:*

**Completed summer 2008:**

The Round About at Blue Raider Drive and Middle Tennessee Boulevard is complete. (We urge great caution when uses this until everyone has gotten used to the new improvements. Drive safely and watch carefully)

The Recreation Center has been completed and they will have the ribbon cutting on the Aug. 27.

Health Services has moved and they will be in their new building starting fall semester beside the Rec Center.

Lyon Hall renovation is complete and students are moving in this fall.

**Completed after Fall 2008:**

Alumni Drive from Greek Row to Blue Raider Drive will be closed this week for final surface paving.

Alumni Drive from Blue Raider Drive to Friendship Street will be closed for the fall semester for road improvement. The intersection at Blue Raider and Alumni Drive will, however, be open next week.

(With the closing of Alumni, there will be no access to the Library parking lot. During the construction period, the northern part of the parking lot by the Honors Building will be changed from green to white. The southern end of the lot by Ezell Hall will remain green for students.)

The blue and red Raider Express routes will be altered during this time:

The blue route will make its stop at the Livestock Center and circle Blue Raider to the roundabout where it will turn right onto MTSU Boulevard. It will then turn right by the Nursing Building and turn left onto Faulkinberry Drive. The bus will then turn left on Normal Way and circle Old Main Circle back to MTSU Boulevard at Jones Hall. It will go east down MTSU Boulevard and turn left on Founders Lane back to the stop at the Livestock Center.

The red route will go east on MTSU. Boulevard from Normal Way, crossing Rutherford Boulevard into the Rutherford Boulevard parking lot. It will make stops in the Rutherford Boulevard Lot and back across Rutherford Boulevard going west on Alumni Drive. The bus will then turn right onto Blue Raider Drive and stay on Blue Raider Drive until it gets to Faulkinberry. The bus will turn on Faulkinberry and then turn left on Normal Way back to MTSU Blvd.

The Baseball Stadium is coming along and is expected to be completed fall 2008.

The satellite? Plant down by Project H.E.L.P will also be finished sometime fall 2008.

The Kirksey Old Main exterior renovations are in progress and other beautification processes.

# 'Cruise-in' attracts friends and families

By BYRON WILKES
Community News Editor

Hot rods, classic tunes and good times abound at the Murfreesboro Hot Rod Club's weekly cruise-in, taking place on the first Friday of May until Oct. 1.

The sounds of revving engines and 50s hop meet every week while this event is going on, and families and friends alike are welcome to come out to the parking lot in front of Roses discount store.

"We just dropped in when we saw all the old cars driving around and parked in the parking lot," said Matt Marson, MTSU recording industry graduate, as he perused the numerous hot rods.

The cruise-in starts around 6 p.m., and goes on until 9 p.m. every Friday, but many people show up early and leave a little later.

"When we first started to have these cruise-ins, about 75 folks with cars showed up. Then 150, then 300, then 400. It really took just took off," said one of MHRC's founding members, Phil Aluise. "We've been showing up since Spring 2002 just to get together and show off each other's cars."

Aluise, along with his brother Chris and Dale Nash of Maxi Muffler, started the MHRC in the spring of 2002 when they noticed the parking lot in front of the Stones River Mall was always empty, providing the ideal location for a cruise-in.

"Chris really spearheaded the effort to have the cruise-in in the Stones River Mall, so we talked to the mall and formed the MHRC," said Aluise. "We completed all the insurance information and did all the hoops and eventually it all came together."

"We always used to see them in front of the Stones River Mall, and it seemed like a lot of fun," said Lindsay Voght, senior in criminal justice at MTSU.

The club meets once a month and anyone can join the 100 plus members of the MHRC for a small fee of $25. MHRC is nonprofit and all proceeds from the cruise-in go to charities, including Christmas gifts for families who can't afford them.

"We just like the atmosphere here. We go to a lot of car shows and the cruise-in is a good atmosphere for people with kids," said Valentine and Isabel Lopez who brought their kids out to the cruise-in.

The cruise-in also has a hula hoop contest for children of all ages and even door prizes for everyone who wants to take a chance.

There is a selection of food including coke floats and hot dogs, to chocolate dipped frozen bananas and funnel cakes.

"We've been living in Murfreesboro for about two years and have been coming for most of that time," said Dan Houston next to his '65 Ford Falcon convertible. "He likes the cars, and I like the music," added his wife Nancy.

The MHRC cruise-in provides a look at some very skilled custom work and classic automobiles, and captures the nostalgia of a time gone by perfectly with its feel-good, family atmosphere.

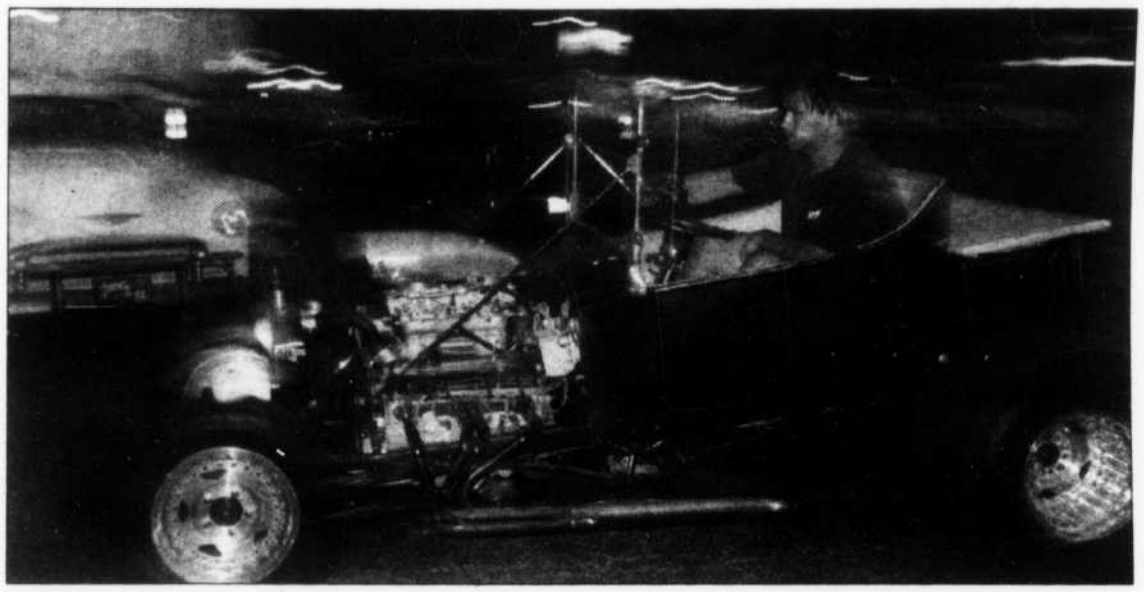

Photo by Andy Harper, Managing Editor
**A hot-rod enthusiast zooms past while checkng out the other cars at the Aug. 15 cruise-in.**

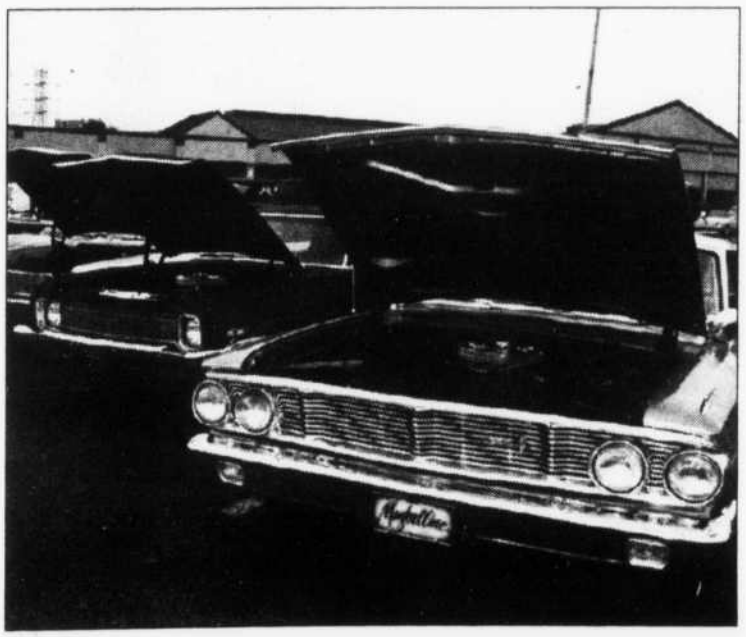

Photo by Andy Harper, Managing Editor
**Owners showcase their hot-rods in the parking lot of Roses while listening to jukebox jams.**

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# Make the most of your time here

**From the Editor**
**Sarah Lavery**

MTSU was for me, at first, a place of transition. I left my university in New York—confused about which direction my academic career would go—and returned home to spend a semester on the familiar campus in the town where I grew up.

I ended up finding my home, my place, and my passion at this school. I found Sidelines and the career that I truly want to pursue, and I found my place within a growing student body that never fails to enlighten, entertain and inspire me.

I came to MTSU thinking I would spend a semester figuring out where I wanted to go next. But I stayed.

I realized I had already found it.

There are infinite clichés and stale words of wisdom I could share, but you've surely heard them all before. You know these are supposed to be the best years of your life. You know you're supposed to be building lifelong friendships, finding your calling and finding yourself. You know all this.

The only advice I can give you is to not take these four (or more) years for granted. Follow every avenue of opportunity that comes your way because it probably won't come again.

After spending this past summer in New York City interning at The Village Voice, I cannot sufficiently express how happy I am to return to Sidelines, to Murfreesboro, to MTSU. Of course this summer was exciting, and, of course, I did my best to enjoy every second of my time in The Big Apple.

I interned alongside students from Yale, Columbia and top universities in New York. Most were not familiar with Murfreesboro (let alone Tennessee—one Voice staff member actually asked me if it was in the Midwest), and some greeted my introduction with raised eyebrows, asking me to pronounce my hometown countless times.

There's an inherent connection between Southerners that Northerners just don't understand. And I longed for that connection—for the company of people who unfailingly hold doors open, people who always apologize when they bump into you on the street.

I couldn't be happier to return to my last semester at MTSU. Even more, I couldn't be happier to return to Sidelines.

I've been with this newspaper for three years now. It was after I joined the staff that I started to truly feel at home. I encourage all of you, whether you're an aspiring writer, artist, photographer, grammar fanatic or just someone with a point of view, to come join our team. Or, at the very least, use this newspaper as your guide to campus—find what it is that will guide you to your passion.

As the editor-in-chief of Sidelines, I want to do everything I can to make this newspaper the voice of MTSU's student body. I want to try to give every diverse idea, event, organization or student a place to be heard.

It was through Sidelines that I found my home at MTSU, and I hope this semester, it can help you find the same.

*Sarah Lavery is a senior journalism major and can be reached at sleditor@mtsu.edu.*

# Involvement is an investment in your future

**Guest Columnist**
**Vincent Windrow**

As I walked across the yard the other day to the James Union Building to have my staff identification card processed, I was bombarded by images from days gone by.

Actually, the more honest description would be "years gone by" especially since I first enrolled here at MTSU back in 1984 BF (Before Facebook, that is).

At double your age, I am no spring chicken; I am more like a fall duck. Yet my times experienced in years past are undeniably worth remembering.

Not only did I get a degree from MTSU, I got a life while here. That is, I did not lie around my dorm curled up like boiled shrimp. I purposefully engaged in campus activities, even after I moved off campus.

Without a car of my own, I often walked to campus to partake in the delicacies of college life.

The result? While a student here, I met my future wife, roomed with my eventual business partner, was initiated into a fraternity that I remain active in, established lifelong friendships and honed latent leadership skills that I have utilized throughout my post-student years.

As the beneficiary of a diverse student programming experience, I was afforded the opportunity to be introduced to different concepts and cultures which broadened my perspective and corrected more than a few misconceptions.

I came to MTSU in 1984 thinking that I had already "arrived." Not overnight but over time, I departed MTSU in full possession of an expanded scope and a lifetime of experiences.

Now, as the new Director of Intercultural and Diversity Affairs, I invite you to make room in your life for what Student Life and the entire MTSU collegiate experience offers you.

Sure, you can remain in that aforementioned crustacean shellfish-like position, if that piques your prawn, but its long-term prospects are limited.

Or you can invest in yourself by seeking opportunities for personal growth and development. The good news is that you only have to look a little farther than your nose to discover the countless string of events coming your way from a variety of directions.

By doing a little bit more than opening your eyes, you will come into full view of posters, flyers, signs and e-mails offering you the great fortune to hear enlightening lectures, be amazed by musical presentations, become introduced to the Greek system, view stunning artistic creations, cheer on great athletic performances, be invited to membership in campus organizations and so much more.

Outside of your present world and frame of reference exists an entirely different one. The greater your thirst for knowledge, the more that world opens itself to you. In other words, drink, eat and be merry because tomorrow may very well be the day that you exit MTSU to enter the next phase of your life. Stick a big straw into the present so that you can step into the future confident in not only your academic achievements but your well-roundedness, as well. I hope to see you around!

*Vincent Windrow is the new director of Intercultural and Diversity Affairs. He may be reached at vwindrow@mtsu.edu.*

# School uniforms set freshmen apart

**Open Mouth, Insert Foot**
**Tiffany Gibson**

Looking back on high school and the dreadful cafeteria food, along with satisfactory education, things weren't too bad, but recently high schools have begun developing "freshman academies" in an attempt to completely isolate freshmen.

Their logic behind these academies is that if students are isolated during their freshman year then they are more likely to pursue their education until graduation.

Even though these academies will help eighth-graders who have fallen behind and inspire other students to learn, Kathleen High School in Lakeland, Fla., has taken their academy to a whole other level by requiring their freshmen to wear school-issued t-shirts all year round.

Shirts are $7 and will be given to any student who cannot afford to purchase them. As far as winter clothing goes, long-sleeved shirts will be unveiled later this year.

The shirts come in grey, black, red and white, and have a logo on the back with the words "Fire Academy" surrounded by flames. The word fire is an acronym for "Freshmen Inspired by Rigorous and Relevant Education."

First of all, dress codes stipulating a specific uniform should not be allowed in public schools. If a parent or child feels the need for a closet full of the same wardrobe then they should seek education at a private institution.

Of course, all schools have dress codes, but requiring students in a certain grade to wear identical uniforms while allowing older students to parade around in various outfits is unfair and completely ridiculous.

Students aren't going to be "proud" of being in the freshman academy if they are subject to humiliation by older students who will be able to spot their grade status right away.

According to Ginger Rosenau, assistant principal at Kathleen high school, the shirts will reduce peer pressure because students will know what to wear every day.

How will wearing a uniform reduce the amount of peer pressure? Sorry, but I guess I didn't realize self-expression through clothing is a gateway addiction.

David Lewis, senior director of high schools, said that the shirts will give freshmen a "sense of identity and pride."

Requiring someone to wear something does not give him or her an individual identity; it only takes away from their self-expression.

Public school dress codes are horrendous enough, but requiring students to wear the same shirt for no apparent reason other than pride is ludicrous.

To add insult to injury, Rosenau said that anyone could tell which students were ninth-graders right away. Basically, Rosenau believes that every ninth-grader looks the same, so why not paint them all one color and have them march down a high school corridor in a straight line?

Obviously, ninth graders aren't required to wear these shirts for safety reasons because other high school students are free to roam the halls wearing whatever they like.

Also these shirts are not being enforced because students' former garments were offensive or distracting to the learning environment. Besides, if distraction is a concern then why make 560 freshmen wear certain shirts to stand out amongst their peers?

Perhaps this is why freshmen have been completely isolated in many schools. As part of the new academies developing across the country, schools have begun putting freshmen up on different floors away from all other students and separating their lunch periods.

The intention behind this could be related to ninth-graders' previous system at middle school, which deals with teams, but by separating them and controlling their wardrobe the administration is setting a terrible first impression of high school.

Let's face it; high school is hard enough without having to deal with social acceptance and dress code restrictions, so why go the extra mile to make things more difficult for these kids?

As of now, Kathleen is the only high school in Polk County that has required its freshman academy students to purchase and wear school-issued shirts.

As a reward, students will be given opportunities to wear a different shirt without the "Fire Academy" logo for high attendance. Students also have the freedom to wear shorts, skirts and pants in denim, black or khaki with their freshman academy shirts.

With luck, maybe other schools will realize the failure of this "pride ploy" and disapprove of this outrageous idea and allow their students to learn in an environment that is not pressuring them to surrender their creativity and identity.

*Tiffany Gibson is a sophomore journalism major and can be reached at slnews@mtsu.edu.*

# Profit motive leads to unintended consequences

**We Are All Dinosaurs**
**Daniel Potter**

Scary news from Harvard's Jerome Groopman in last week's *New Yorker*: Bacteria are increasingly resistant to modern antibiotics, and rapidly outpacing our ability to treat infections.

In case you missed it, this is why when you visit student health with a sinus infection, the doctor can be reluctant to prescribe antibiotics; the more common such drugs become, the more likely bacteria will develop resistances to them.

Incidentally, factory farming also plays a huge role here, as livestock are pumped full of antibiotics. "The drugs are not used to cure sick animals but to prevent them from getting sick, because we crowd them together under filthy circumstances. These are perfect environments for disease," says University of California, Berkeley professor Michael Pollan.

So why can't modern medicine just adapt to keep up with the microbes? Well, to some extent it tries, with limited success. But that effort is dampened by widespread disinterest from large pharmaceutical companies.

That's because Big Pharma has little monetary incentive to invest heavily in antibiotic research – What good is a breakthrough treatment if, as soon as doctors get ahold of it, they immediately start trying not to use it?

Instead, Groopman writes, "drug companies are looking for blockbuster therapies that must be taken daily for decades, drugs like Lipitor, for high cholesterol, or Zyprexa, for psychiatric disorders, used by millions of people

PROFIT MOTIVE, PAGE 22

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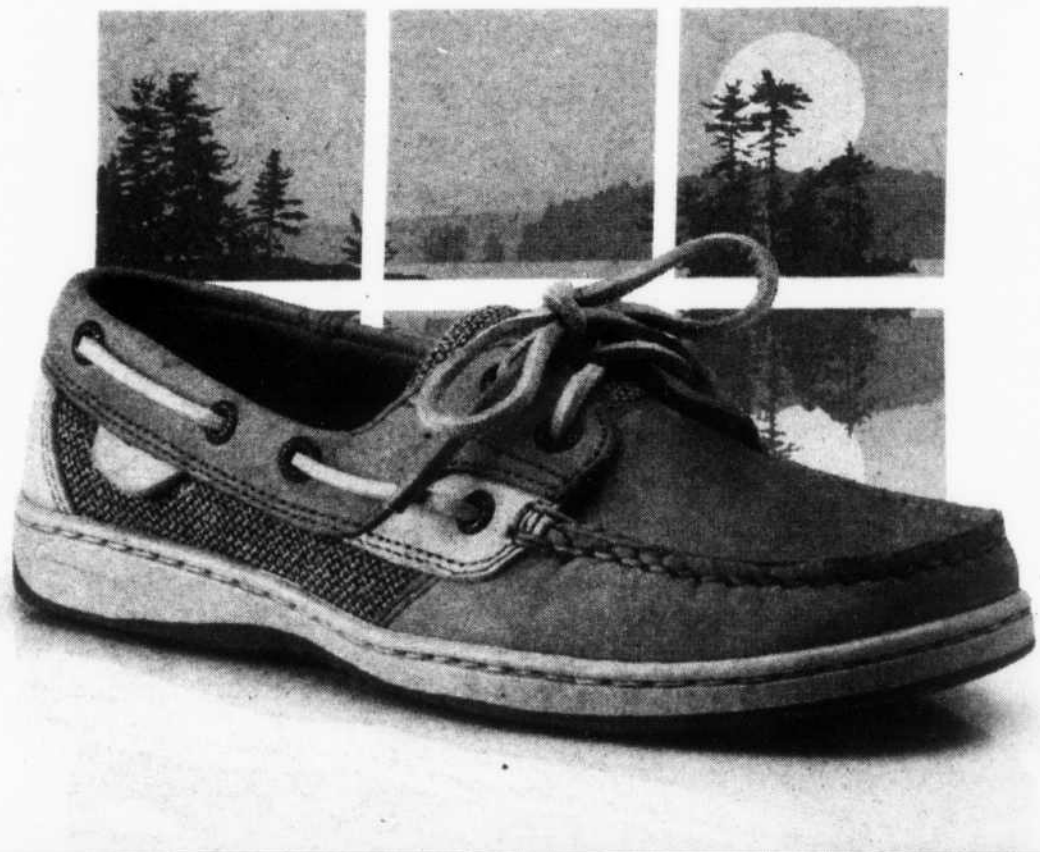

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# Prospectus for the future: A college senior looks ahead

**Hand Sanitizer and Lip Gloss**
**Alaina Thetford**

Sitting at home on a Sunday evening, listening to a combination of Nashville folk music and my cat purring, I think about the foreboding school year. Especially since it is my last one, and I have a week left before diving in feet first.

Every time a new semester rolls around, I am forced into thinking about all the previous ones I have had. College is such a small moment in time and so few people seem to understand that.

Yet everything that happens during this time affects the rest of our lives. We learn things to gain employment after graduation. We make friends we will have forever. And many people meet "the one."

It's generally four years of our lives – a mere blink of an eye compared to the rest of it.

I always find myself thinking about such things. I think of friends that I've gained and lost. I think of all my "blissful romances" that ended in disaster...or never should have begun in the first place.

I think about all I have learned and how there is still so much knowledge left to be had. This is the time for either being terrified or excited, and I'm probably a combination of both.

As great as college has been, you reach that point where real life is at your fingertips. Sure real life is full of bad jobs, mortgage payments, and menopause, but I want to be there! Contributing to society!

And, ever looming is the fear everyone has of graduating and moving home with mom and dad because they couldn't cut it. I will never say that it can't happen to me, but it makes for a good source of incentive for me to keep being responsible and hard-working.

As I sit, I look around at my apartment. It's very small and crowded. It is a constant image of college life for me. Shelves piled with books, laundry to be folded spread all over the couch, guitar leaning in the corner, records in crates along the wall.

It's like we're all here, and we're all just trying to make it. And, we're all in the same boat. No space, no money, no sleep. No wonder we're all ready to get out of here.

I think about my class load this semester. About studio hours and lab times. About working. About attempts for sleep. And, I say, bring it on. With graduation moving closer and closer, it just gives me more fuel to keep it all going.

Thanks MTSU, it's been fun, but I'm ready to get out of here.

*Alaina Thetford is a senior recording industry major and can be reached at act2p@mtsu.edu.*

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# Students without cars can still have fun

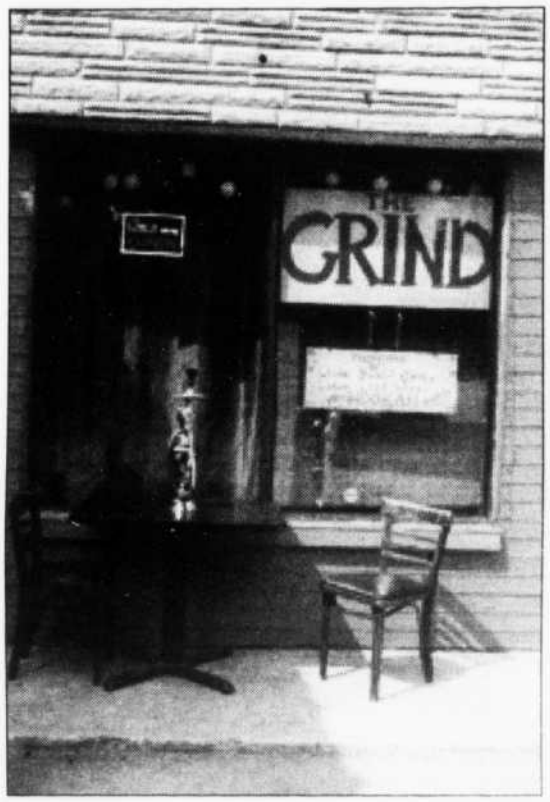
By MICHAEL STONE
Features Editor

It's a Friday night and you have a pocket full of cash. Unfortunately, it's not enough to buy that hunker from the used car lot that can, vanity set aside, get you from point A to point B. That means you're stuck in your dorm room watching Seinfeld reruns, right?

Absolutely not Mister or Miss Car-less.

There are plenty of ways for the MTSU student who's stranded on campus without a ride to have a good time after a rigorous week of classes.

"I use to have a hard time finding things to do after school," says Elizabeth Martinez, a junior accounting major who has been car-less all through college. "Now that I've gotten to know the area better, I've found a lot more fun things to do in town."




Photos By Erin O'Leary, Contributing Photograpther

**Places like Gentlemen Jim's and The Grind are ideal places for fun for car-less students.**

## ON CAMPUS

The first and most obvious place to have fun without a car is right outside your dorm – literally.

Student Programming has been entertaining students on campus for over 40 years. It brings musicians, comics, films and a host of other forms of entertainment to the grounds of MTSU.

The events Student Programming is hosting this year are sure to give the car-less student more than enough relief from school, said Greg Feiling, coordinator for Student Programming.

"Everything that is hosted by Student Programming is picked 100 percent by the students," Feiling said. "So there's always something for everybody."

The organization will kick off this year's events Tuesday at 8 p.m. in the Murphy Center with comedian Mike Birbiglia. The following night, Student Programming will host Campus Recreation's reopening ceremony beginning at 3 p.m. The ceremony will be complete with live music, tours of the new building and various other activities.

Throughout the year, the organization will show recently released films in the KUC Theatre for only $2. This is better than paying for gas and an $8 movie ticket, right? Movies, along with major concerts, are the only things that come with a cost for students. Everything else costs a whopping $0.

"I always enjoy the acts that are brought on campus," says Steven Tate, an MTSU senior who has lived on campus for 4 years without a car.

Feiling says he takes pride in bringing enjoyment to students like Tate.

"We're really looking forward to this year," Feiling said.

But if you're more of a hands-on person rather than kicking back and watching something, MTSU has just the right place for you.

The recently renovated Campus Recreation center, or more popularly known as the "Rec," is now one of the most state-of-the-art facilities in Middle Tennessee. Activities available at the Rec include basketball, racquetball, weight lifting, rock climbing, swimming, volleyball and pretty much anything else you can think of that will get your heart beating.

"Everyone is very excited about the new Rec being open," says Jenny Crouch, marketing and accessibility coordinator for Campus Recreation. "Once students come to it for the first time, they're sure to be hooked."

Renovations to the Rec included new aerobics, outdoor equipment and cardio rooms, an expansion to the weight room, new offices, a new health services center and a new entrance.

The Rec also hosts activities including intramural sports leagues and outdoor pursuit trips.

With all these activities and more, Campus Recreation proves that you don't need a car to have fun.

"Anyone who knows me knows I'm not too big into fitness, but with so much to do (at the Rec), I'm really driven to get in shape," Crouch says.

## TO SMOKE OR DRINK

But if being on campus reminds you too much of dreary lectures from your professors, then there are plenty of things you can do that are well within walking, bicycling or skateboarding distance from campus, including visiting Samiii's Hookah Longue, located off Middle Tennessee Boulevard.

The lounge was recently opened by Sami Ihmaidan, former owner of Mezza Cuisine. Ihmaidan closed the doors of Mezza to concentrate on making his hookah lounge the place to relax in Murfreesboro.

"I always wanted to do something that college kids would really enjoy because I remember what it was like to be in college," Ihmaidan says.

Along with more than 100 types of tobacco, including popular flavors like Blue Mist, Tequila Sunrise and Black Grape, the lounge offers drinks and exotic foods. And it's all at an affordable price.

"I keep my prices as low as I can," Ihmaidan says. "I want this to be a place where people can come hang out for an affordable price."

Though the lounge is 18+, and no alcoholic beverages are served, guests are allowed to bring their own "beverages."

"People still have to show me their I.D.," Ihmaidan says. "I don't want to get into trouble."

But if for some reason you decide that Samiii's isn't the right hookah joint for you, you're in luck you ride-less student you because there is another hookah joint very close to campus.

The Grind, a fairly new hookah place with a laid back environment that will surely have you talking about how fun last night was.

Located right behind campus on E. Main Street, The Grind, which is also 18+, was started by Kathy DeFeo and her husband to keep in touch with their young side by providing a hip place for college students.

The DeFeo's try to keep their prices as low as possible too, offering a bowl of too, offering a bowl of tobacco for

RIDE, PAGE 19

## RIDE
FROM PAGE 19

$5 and bottomless drinks for $5.

"You could have a $10 night and spend hours here," Kathy says.

It's not all about tobacco smoking at The Grind, though. Every Monday night is open mic night.

"People can do whatever they want, like poetry or a song or whatever," Kathy says.

Every Friday night is acoustic music night at The Grind for anyone who wants their songwriting skills to be heard or for anyone who just loves live music.

The DeFeo's decided to begin opening at 8 a.m. with school starting for all the early birds of MTSU.

"If you're up that early, definitely stop by and have a cup of coffee," Kathy says.

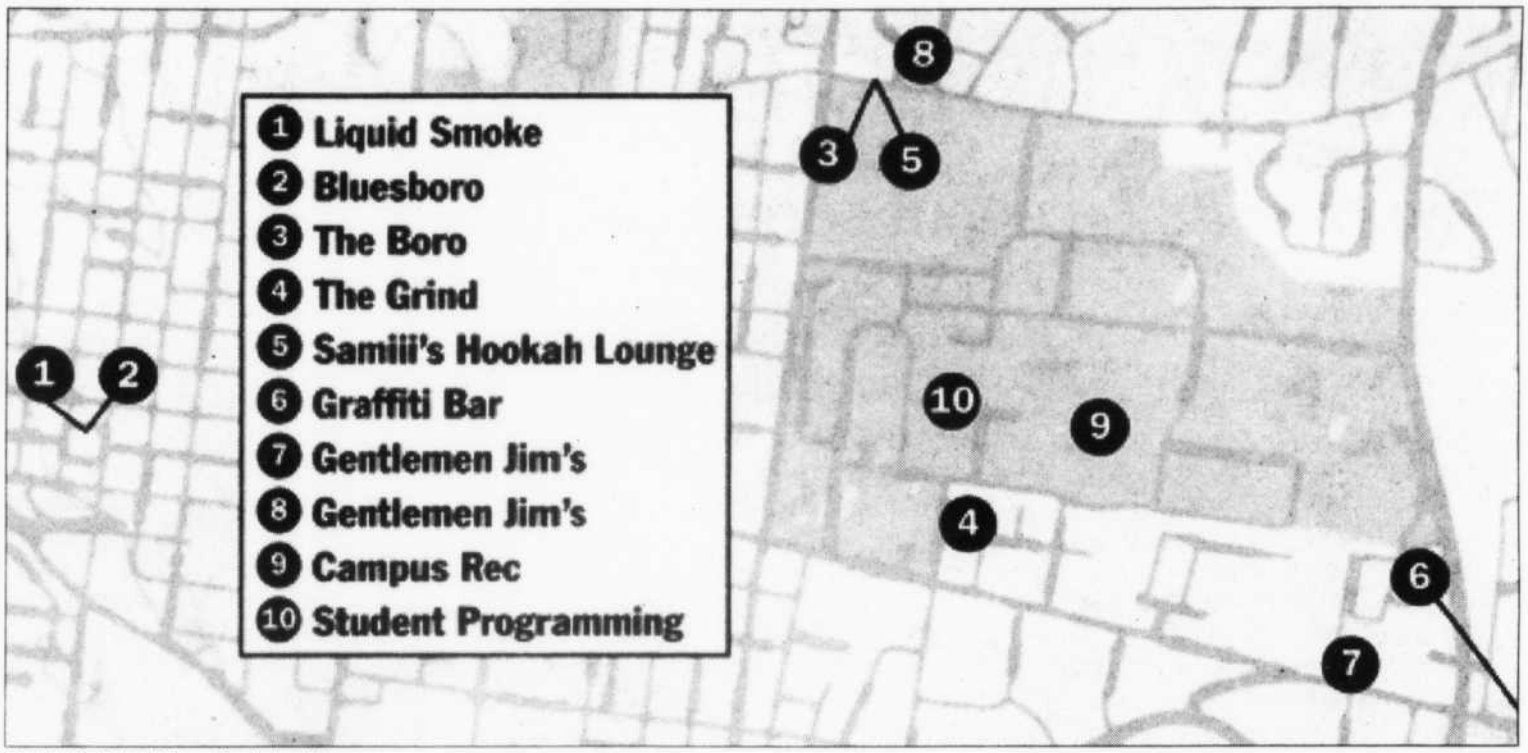
What about something besides hookah you say? Have no fear – there are of course other things to do besides inhale smoke worth a car-less journey.

One of those things is, well, drink. I'm kidding of course – for the most part. That is one of the options, though, at Graffiti Bar, a karaoke bar that is growing in popularity and located just minutes from campus down Rutherford Boulevard.

You don't have to be a drinker to have fun at Graffiti. There is karaoke, live music and the ability to spray paint the walls – hence the name.

"I usually don't go out to bars, but (Graffiti) is definitely one I like," senior accounting major Dedrick Mitchell says.

Graffiti is one of the few bars that people under 21 can go to, but you still can't consume alcohol until you're 21. So sorry underclassmen, guess you'll just have to behave yourselves for a few more years.




Graphic By Alicia Wilson, Production Manager

**The gray area represents MTSU and the numbers represent some of the great locations that are within walking distance of campus.**

One of the 21+ bars in Murfreesboro, Gentlemen Jim's, has two locations, one on Greenland Drive and one on East Main Street. Both are located very close to campus.

"(Jim's has) a great atmosphere," says Jim Baldwin, owner of both locations. "There's never a lot of trouble because of security. We have low prices and cheap beer."

Yes, Jim's is a bar, but serving alcohol is not its only offering. There's also pool, darts and the item necessary for every bar, a jukebox.

Every Tuesday and Thursday is "beer bash" at Jim's.

"Beer bash means $3 pitchers," Baldwin says.

There is a more music-oriented bar, located on Greenland Drive right across from campus, called The Boro Bar and Grill. The Boro, as it's frequently referred to as, has live music every Friday and Saturday with no cover charge on Fridays. It also has pool, darts, a full menu and, believe it or not, kickball every other Sunday.

"We're just a big family here," bartender Heather Rose says. "Everybody has each others backs and there's never really any drama happening."

The Boro has drink specials every day except for Saturday, coffee and an outside patio. It has a flavor that Rose simply says "sets it apart from other bars."

There is more action going on elsewhere, but it may take a few more strides, pedals or pushes. That action is taking place down East Main Street at Murfreesboro's Public Square, or more popularly known as "The Square."

Located there is Liquid Smoke, a 21+ bar that also offers a wide selection of imported, hand-made cigars kept fresh in either the walk-in humidor or the cabinet one.

"We're not a dance hall or a night club," says Mike LaMure, owner of Liquid Smoke. "We're just a neighborhood tavern."

The bar offers live music from house bands Luke Pruitt and The Go Show, as well as other local bands, darts and hookah. This culmination of activities makes Liquid Smoke a place "where nobody can come in without already having a friend or making a new one," LaMure says.

Right across the way from Liquid Smoke at The Square is Bluesboro, a 21+ bar that is very hard to miss when venturing around Murfreesboro.

"We're the biggest bar on The Square," says Mike McClellan, security employee for Bluesboro.

The bar is very popular among MTSU students and attracts a very diverse crowd.

"The best part about this place is the mix of people and the bands," bartender Nick Diel says.

Unfortunately for you carless MTSU students, this weekend will be your last opportunity to check out Bluesboro. On Monday, Aug. 24, the bar's doors will be shut for renovations. It will reopen in October under the name The Blue Rooster.

### RESTAURANTS

If none of the aforementioned places are your cup of tea, it's okay because I have some other suggestions. These suggestions involve something that no one can be opposed to, and that's eating.

Two Mexican restaurants, La Siesta, located off Greenland Drive, and Camino Real, located off East Main Street, are definitely worth checking out. Right down the street from Camino is Slick Pig Barbeque and Nuttin' But Wings, to very different restaurants with one thing in common – deliciousness.

But Get to know people on your floor and in your campus community. It's with these young men and women that you will become the close with over your college career, and beyond that, your life.

"Most of the good friends I have now are ones that I have met since I started at MTSU last fall," says Chad Howse, a sophomore philosophy major.

And how did Chad make all those good friends?

"I just started talking to people honestly," Howse says.

But if you don't want to talk, and if nothing else I've suggested appeals to you, maybe those Seinfeld reruns are for you. But chances are, you'll find something to keep you entertained, even if your wallet won't allow you to own that old rust bucket from Jimmy's Used Car Lot.

# Greek housing for MTSU girls?

## The discussion about sorority housing continues this September

By SARAH STERCHI
Contributing Writer

> **"Sorority housing is something that our whole chapter would like to see"**
> **Tracie Henson**
> President of Zeta Tau Alpha

Have you ever driven past Greek Row and thought about why there are fraternity houses but not sorority houses?

You might have heard that there is an old Tennessee law stating that more than eight women living together in a single residence is considered a brothel.

If you believed this, you were deceived. In fact, that myth was officially cleared up in 2003 when the 103rd Tennessee General Assembly passed legislation stating "any rules applying to a sorority house shall be no less stringent than those applying to a fraternity house."

And yet sorority houses are few and far between in Tennessee.

In January of 2007, the Sigma Kappa chapter at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga opened the university's first residential sorority house. And perhaps MTSU won't be far behind.

While no laws actually prohibit the existence of sorority housing, there are still challenges when it comes to this issue.

There has been an ongoing discussion concerning sorority housing at MTSU for years now. Plans for Greek Row began in December of 1994, but the houses were not actually complete until January of 2000. These houses ranged in cost from $875,000 to $1.1 million.

So why haven't they built any sorority houses yet?

Gene Fitch, associate vice president for Student Affairs and dean of Student Life, would tell you it comes down to money.

Fitch has played a crucial role in discussions of sorority housing, working with MTSU sororities to find a plan that is reasonable, affordable and achievable.

"The local chapters are very interested (in sorority housing)," Fitch says. "But the (sororities') offices do not feel they can support the types of homes that have been presented."

There have been about five detailed plans presented, but the sororities have determined that the plans are "cost-prohibitive." It seems the biggest challenge is figuring out the most affordable plan, and so far, they have yet to come up with one.

Plans have been submitted to build homes on vacant land behind Campus Crossings South on City View Drive. Fitch said representatives of the sororities recently contacted him further discuss these plans. This meeting is scheduled for September. MTSU is willing to lease the land, but it would be left up to the sororities to pay for the houses by getting loans through banks or other sources.

While funding is a major issue, Fitch also noted that finalization of these plans is also contingent upon agreement among sororities.

Tracie Henson, president of Zeta Tau Alpha, expressed great interest in sorority housing.

"Sorority housing is something that our whole chapter would like to see," Henson says.

Essence Lopez, president of Alpha Kappa Alpha, expresses a somewhat different view.

"I personally don't care about houses, and I know some members of my sorority don't care about housing, but more of a large space or room where we can meet and store things," Lopez says. "It might be a little different for (other sororities) when it comes to housing."

In fact, some sororities did have space like Lopez described until recently. Chapter rooms in Corlew and Cummings Hall were closed in May due to building renovations. The rooms were actually scheduled to be closed sooner and were expected to be lost by 2007 as part of a 10-year renovation plan.

Fitch says there are no plans to reopen them.

"We were very sad to lose our chapter rooms," Henson says. "It's hard to plan everything at least a week in advance so that we can get the proper paperwork into the university to reserve a room."

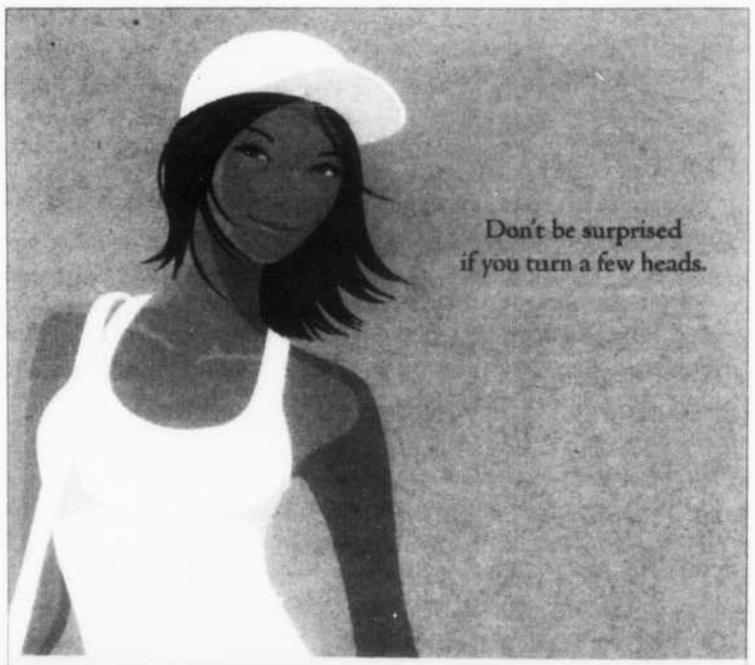
Alpha Kappa Alpha never had chapter rooms to begin with, so Lopez can sympathize.

"I was so sad for (the sororities that lost their chapter rooms) when I heard they were being taken away and they were going to have to figure out what to do with their things and where to meet as well," Lopez says.

With chapter rooms gone, the sororities are clearly in a difficult position. Not only do they have to find a place to store things such as trophies and photographs, but they also face the challenge of finding available space on a regular basis to conduct meetings.

It seems that sorority housing would solve this problem by giving the women facilities where they could make themselves at home and relieve the stress of searching for a suitable place to take

SORORITIES, PAGE 22

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# The music of Murfreesboro

## Big-name, expensive shows don't always beat the feel of a local performance

By ELIZABETH GUYE
Contributing Writer

With school starting, students are returning to their dorms or apartments and preparing for the school year. Weeks will soon become full of studying, stressing, and nights and weekends will become an escape.

Some nights, you may just stay in, or hang out with some friends, but other nights you may want to go out with friends and listen to local music and have a relaxing night on the town.

And Murfreesboro is just the place for that live music. It has a wide variety of places that students can see their favorite local bands, as well as ones they are seeing for the first time.

One of those places is Bluesboro, a restaurant and bar with nightly entertainment. The *Daily News Journal* recently named the bar the best place for entertainment as well as, the best bar in Murfreesboro. Even though it will be closing on Aug. 24 for renovations, it will be back in full force in October under the name The Blue Rooster.

Anyone can find something they like to listen to at Bluesboro because it hosts a wide selection of live music including country, rock, blues, R&B and dance.

Mandy Hughes, an MTSU alumni, says Bluesboro is her favorite place to go, because it is a lot bigger and more people come, making the atmosphere a lot more social than other venues. She also thinks the music there is all really good every time she has been. It is no wonder it was chosen to have the best entertainment. What ever will Murfreesboro do until October?

Perhaps the city will look into one of the newest places for live music, Graffiti Bar. On Monday and Tuesday night, Graffiti Bar has karaoke, and most other nights it has live music.

Graffiti Bar is unique because every inch of the bars walls are covered in Graffiti, giving it a lively feeling like no other.

"Graffiti Bar is my favorite place to go in Murfreesboro," says Minh Le, sophomore marketing major. "I always have a great time there and the atmosphere is a lot of fun."

Then we have, The Boro Bar and Grill. The Boro is a good place to listen to live music during your precious weekends. It also has good food to enjoy while listening to live rock music. Its open all week as a restaurant and bar, but, unfortunately for the rockin' crowd, live music is only played on weekends.

But what if you're not into local rock?

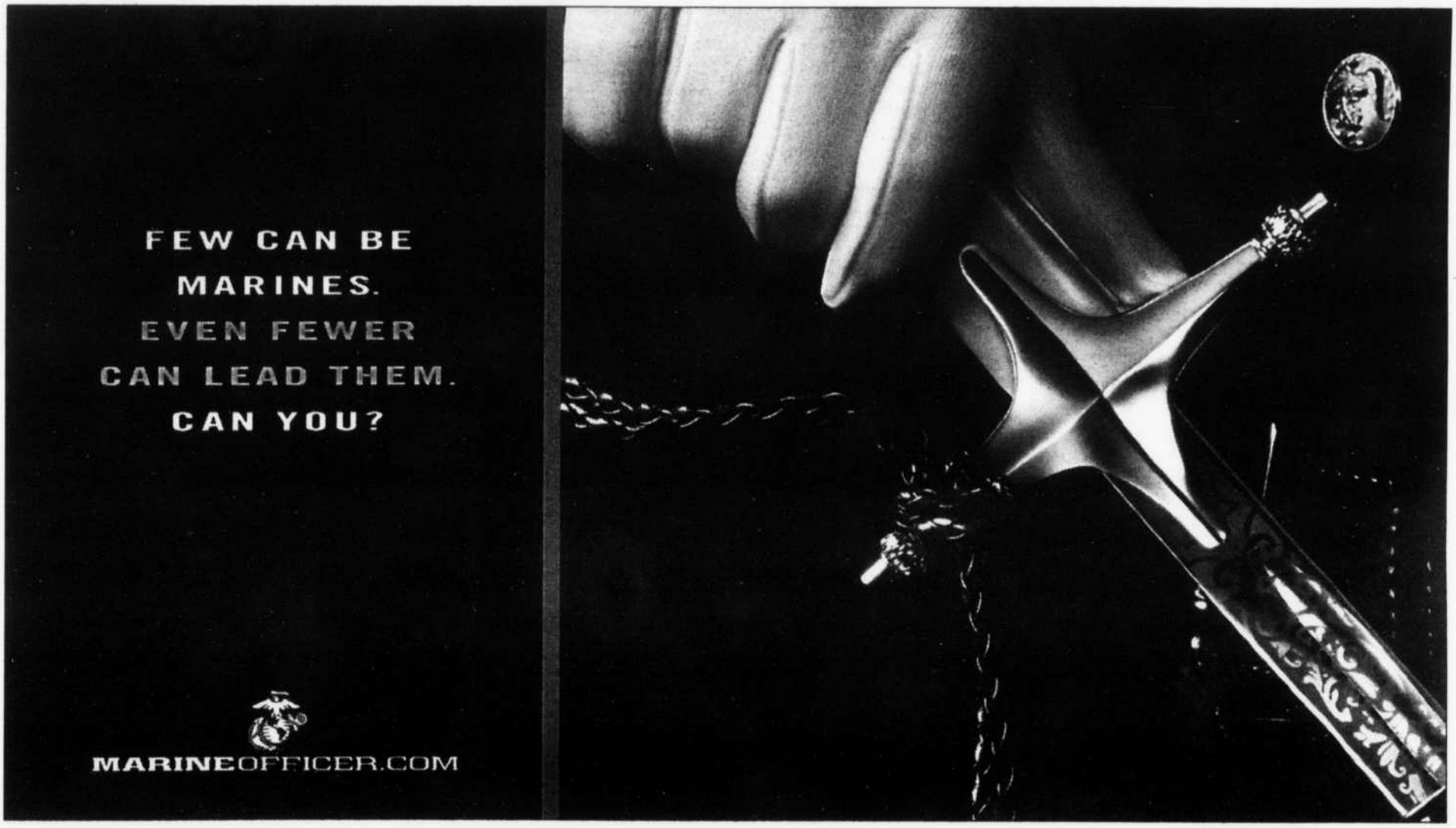
Kirkenburts Smokehouse Grill is the place to go if you enjoy country music. Every Thursday night they have live country bands come and perform. The restaurant has a casual, laid back atmosphere, making it very comfortable and enjoyable.

Wall Street is a very popular place for live music also. It has a restaurant and bar downstairs and music venues and a bar upstairs. Wall Street is 21 and up, though, for both levels, so sorry kiddies.

Every Thursday, Friday and Saturday features great, local rock bands that are sure to impress.

Another popular place to go is Club 527. It also has two levels,

MUSIC, PAGE 22



## MUSIC
FROM PAGE 21

one with a nightclub setting and concert hall, and the other with billiards. Club 527 has karaoke on Wednesday and Thursday, and has mainly rock bands playing the rest of the nights.

Jared Henderson, freshman liberal arts major, has played live music at Club 527 and thinks it is the biggest music venue in Murfreesboro and his personal favorite.

A cozier place for live music is Liquid Smoke. It provides a good place for relaxing and listening to mellow music. It has a hookah and cigar lounge, and provides free Wi-Fi. Liquid Smoke has live bands playing throughout the week to go along with its soothing atmosphere. There are of course other places around Murfreesboro that can quench your thirst for live music, if you just keep your eyes and ears open. There are always house parties with live bands going on.

But if the real deal is better fit for you than bars and parties, then local music studios is where you should go.

"Walnut House is the best place for live sound and definitely has a great music venue and studio," says Jared Henderson, previously of the band Anathens.

He says it has top-line recording at a good price. There are a lot more recording studios around the city and surrounding areas.

All these venues contribute to the growing music business in Murfreesboro.

According to Patrick Raines, dean of economics at Belmont University, the music industry in the Murfreesboro area creates many jobs, including musicians, songwriters, financial services, managers, audio engineers, public relations and promotions firms, just to name a few.

He says that it is estimated that the music industry creates 19,437 jobs directly related to music production and that those jobs provide $722 million in labor income annually.

And without local music scenes like the one in Murfreesboro, many jobs would be lost and our economy would suffer.

But with everyone in a state of complete broke-ness, how can they scrounge the pennies up for a live show?

"I would much rather listen to live music than a CD," Le says. "It is just more exciting and puts you in a different, happier mood than a CD does."

And perhaps some of you would agree.

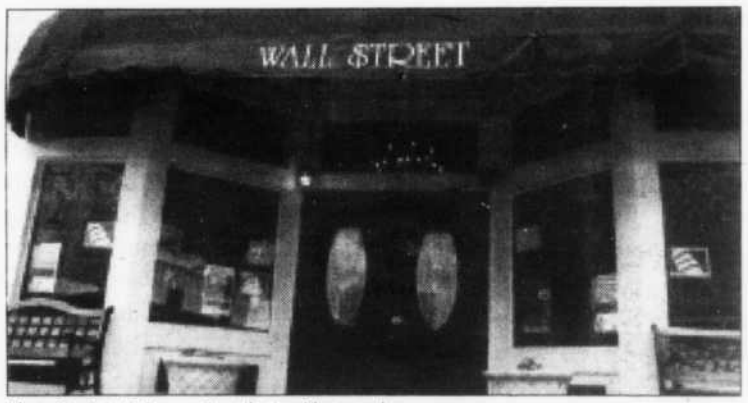



Photo By Erin O'Leary, Contributing Photographer
**Wall Street is just one of the many local venues that host great local music.**

## SORORITY
FROM PAGE 20

care of business.

"It is becoming more difficult to find rooms on campus to meet in," Lopez says. "Considering that Greeks participate in, plan and carry out the majority of the activities on campus, meeting to plan those events is crucial, and not having a meeting room or environment is not helpful. It just makes it easier if there were some set place to meet that you could call your own."

Fitch is hopeful that the chapters are making progress towards the goal of sorority housing, and perhaps the September meeting will bring an agreement that can put their plans into action. For now, though, the sororities will have to do the best they can without housing or chapter rooms.

## PROFIT MOTIVE
FROM PAGE 15

of dollars each year."

By contrast, antibiotics are only taken briefly, and are therefore less lucrative. "The exception is the use of antibiotics in livestock, which is both a profit-driver and a potential cause of antibiotic resistance," Groopman notes, citing research that shows fewer and fewer antibacterial agents going to market.

Lousy capitalism. It's supposed to incentivize progress and spur invention, but here the profit motive seems to betray those of us that don't want to revisit the pre-antibiotic era. It's just one of many cases in which capitalism actually undermines progress rather than rewarding it.

Interestingly, that rascally profit motive also proves a stumbling block in the agenda of one of capitalism's stronger supporters – John McCain.

Lately McCain has been pushing the argument that the current fuel squeeze can be alleviated with offshore drilling. McCain's "Straight Talk" sloganeering aside, this is an election-year ruse, and would do nothing to lower the price of oil for decades.

Even then, the output would be a drop in the bucket compared to current demand, according to the Department of Energy. That offshore drilling is even a talking point is an insult to voters' intelligence, but I digress.

The point is, McCain's supporters seem to believe whatever oil gets drilled here will be sold here. But, in contrast to many countries with nationally-owned oil companies, the American oil industry is private. So, supposing Congress permits ExxonMobil to drill for oil off American shores, there is nothing to stop them from turning around and selling that oil to China.

You have to savor the irony of these staunch free-market adherents walking right into their own trap. Lousy capitalism!

*Daniel Potter is a senior journalism and Spanish major and can be reached at dan.glennzig@gmail.com.*

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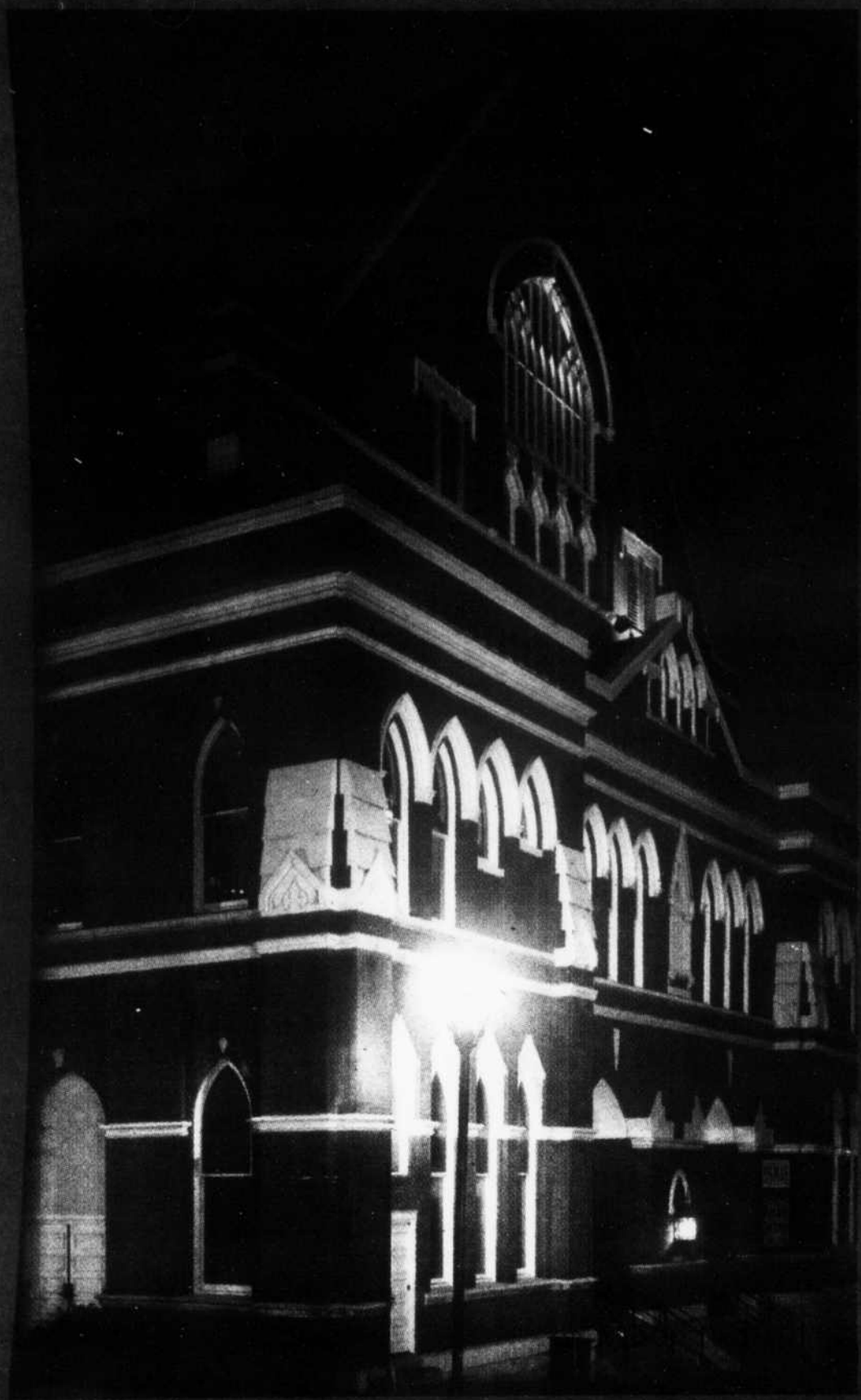

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# Predictions for upcoming MT season

By CHRIS MARTIN
Sports Editor

As football season rolls around, there is a buzz among fans as they debate and discuss how their team will perform in the upcoming campaign.

In 2007, the Blue Raiders started the season with four straight losses, but won five of their next six before dropping the final two games of the season. MT was in the hunt for a Sun Belt Conference title until Louisiana-Lafayette came to Murfreesboro and put the Blue Raiders out of contention.

The season has yet to start, yet there are already multiple storylines that have fans panicking, rejoicing and suffering from anxiety.

One of the best things to come out of this football offseason was MT's recruiting class. Head Coach Rick Stockstill amassed one of the most highly touted groups of newcomers in the school's history. Stockstill assembled a class of 25 players which, according to rivals.com included six three-star prospects: athlete Malcolm Beyah, defensive tackle Immanuel Chu, defensive back Hakeem Johnson, wide receiver Eldred King, quarterback/wide receiver Sancho McDonald and defensive back Marcus Udell.

One of the less enjoyed plots to surface during workouts has been injuries and defections on the offensive line. All-SBC first team offensive tackle Franklin Dunbar decided to leave the Blue Raiders after his junior season in order to pursue a professional football career. If that wasn't enough, last year's starting right tackle, Mark Fisher, was lost for the season after he suffered a torn labrum in the spring.

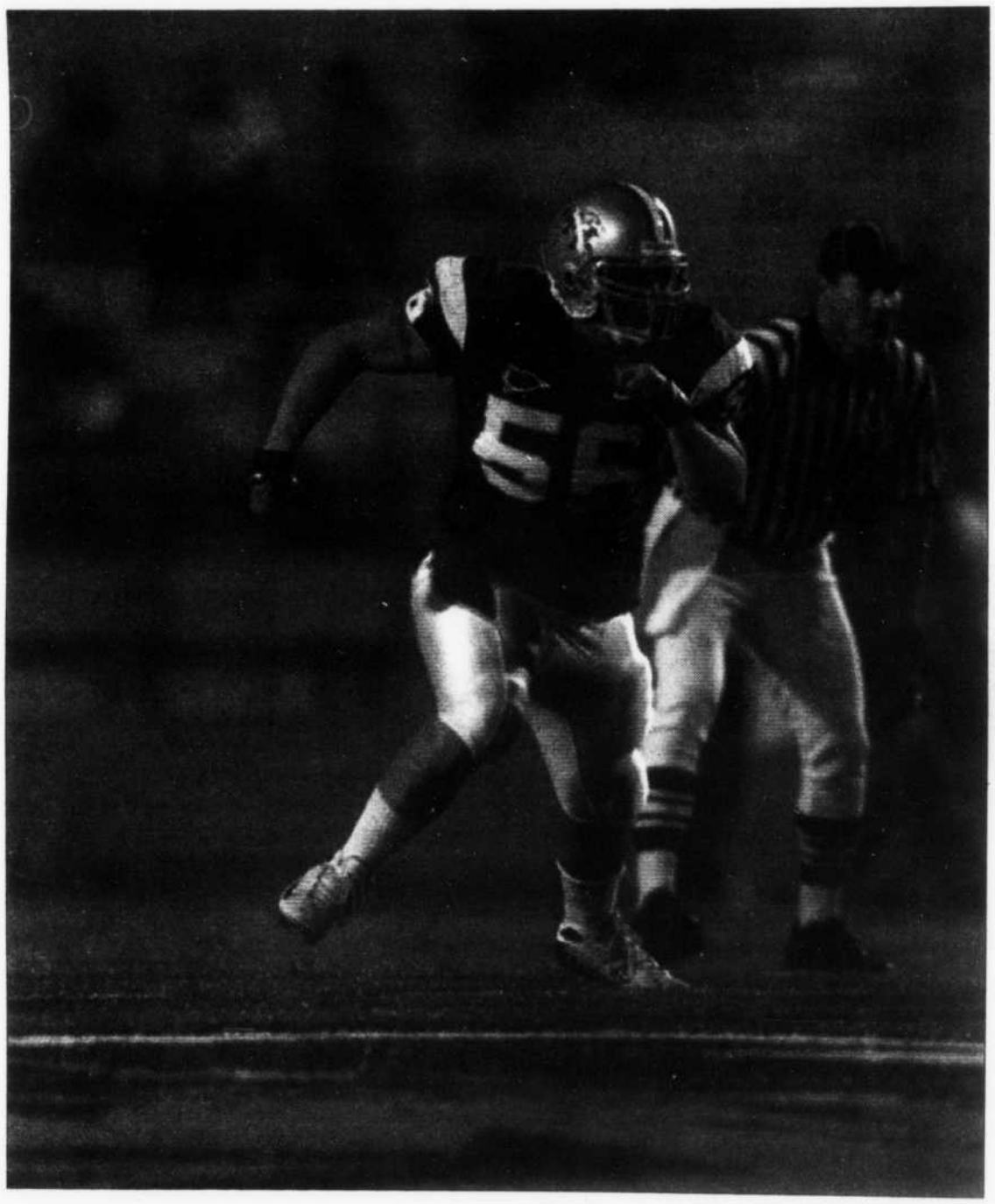

Photo Courtesy of MT Media Relations
**Over the past two seasons, senior Wes Hofacker has started 21 games at defensive tackle.**

At the conclusion of 2007, the offensive line looked as though it would be an area of strength heading into 2008. The only starter not returning was guard Brandon Nix, who had exhausted his eligibility. However, after Dunbar's departure and Fisher's injury, only two starting linemen will suit up for MT next season.

Dunbar isn't the only player from last season the Blue Raiders will miss.

Starting defensive ends Erik Walden and Tavares Jones both ran out of eligibility. Walden ended his career as MT's career sack leader, piling up 24 career quarterback takedowns. Jones is third on the career sack list with 14.

In the defensive backfield, cornerback Bradley Robinson ended his fabulous career with the Blue Raiders. Robinson was the team's leader in interceptions three out of his four years in Murfreesboro, finishing his collegiate career with 14 picks, good enough to tie for second on the all-time list.

**Aug. 28 vs. Troy Trojans**

First games are always difficult to judge because sometimes a team doesn't become a cohesive unit until a few weeks into the season, and facing a hated rival who tied for the top spot in the conference is not ideal.

However, this is not the same team that went 6-1 in conference play and pulled a stunning upset over Oklahoma State last season. Quarterback Omar Haugabook (18 passing and 11 rushing touchdowns), running back Kenny Cattouse (1,026 combined rushing and receiving yards) as well as four of the Trojans' top five receivers are no longer with the Trojans.

On the defensive side of the ball, Troy's secondary is going to look a lot different than last year's without cornerbacks Leodis McKelvin (11th overall pick in the NFL draft) and Elbert Mack, who pulled in an SBC-leading eight interceptions in 2007. Middle Tennessee should be able to exploit the Trojans' green secondary and pull out a win over its conference rival.

MT 21-10

**Sept. 6 vs. Maryland Terrapins**

The Blue Raiders will be playing two big games at home to start the season. MT fans always get fired up for Troy and for the second straight season an ACC team will be visiting Floyd Stadium when Maryland comes to town on Sept. 6.

The Terrapins got inconsistent play out of their two quarterbacks, senior Jordan Steffy and junior Chris Turner, last season. In 2007, Maryland only scored nine passing touchdowns compared to 11 interceptions. Whoever plays quarterback for the Terps this season (Turner looks to be the front-runner) will have two big targets in Darrius Heyward-Bey and Isaiah Williams. Both are 6-3, 200

FOOTBALL, PAGE 25

## FOOTBALL
FROM PAGE 24

Williams. Both are 6-3, 200 lbs. and combined for 1,181 receiving yards a year ago, including 786 from Heyward-Bey. On defense, look for senior linebackers Dave Philistin and Moise Fokou to give the Blue Raiders' rushing attack fits.

The last ACC team to visit MT, Virginia, barely escaped with a win. Maryland isn't as good as the Cavaliers were last season, but it should still pull out the victory. Don't be surprised though, if the Blue Raiders pull out the upset on their home turf.

Maryland 38-21

**Sept. 13 at Kentucky Wildcats**

The season doesn't get any easier for the Blue Raiders as they make a visit to Lexington to face the Kentucky Wildcats.

Kentucky had a breakout year in 2007, winning eight games with notable victories over Arkansas, a triple-overtime classic against national champion LSU and a bowl-game win over Florida State. However, the Wildcats limped through the end of the regular season, losing four of their final five games; granted three of those losses came against Florida, Georgia and at Tennessee.

Kentucky is replacing seven starters on an offense that averaged 36.5 points a game, including all of last year's stars, such as: quarterback Andre Woodson, running back Rafael Little, wide receivers Keenan Burton and Steve Johnson and tight end Jacob Tamme.

The Wildcats will be experienced on defense with eight starters returning. The only problem is that last year's defense wasn't that good. Last season's squad allowed nearly 400 offensive yards and 29.6 points a game.

While the Wildcats are playing at home, look for Dwight Dasher and Phillip Tanner to shred the Kentucky defense en route to a narrow victory.

MT 28-27

**Sept. 20 at Arkansas State Red Wolves**

In 2007, the Blue Raiders dominated the Red Wolves in a 24-7 rout at home. In that game, the MT defense picked off ASU quarterback Corey Leonard three times, set a school record with nine sacks and only allowed 138 total offensive yards.

In 2008, Leonard should be one of the SBC's top quarterbacks. Inconsistency plagued his sophomore season, but he still managed to put up impressive numbers (2,235 passing and 547 rushing yards). The Red Wolves are a team on the rise in the SBC and will make life difficult for the Blue Raiders in Jonesboro, Ark.

ASU should have a potent offense this season as it returns Leonard, junior running back Reggie Arnold (1,060 rushing yards with nine touchdowns), junior wideout Brandon Thompkins (503 receiving yards) and senior tight end David Johnson (204 receiving yards and three touchdowns). With all the newcomers on defense, MT will be tested by ASU's offensive attack.

The one factor that could play into MT's favor is despite the offensive weapons and six starters on defense returning, the Red Wolves return only one starter on the offensive line and none in the secondary. Even though it has a lot of new faces in the trenches and the defensive backfield, ASU's offensive attack is going to be too much for Trevor Jenkins and the Blue Raider defense.

ASU 24-14

**Sept. 30 vs. Florida Atlantic Owls**

FAU is coming off a landmark season in 2007 in which it won eight games, including a 44-27 win over Memphis in the New Orleans Bowl.

Unfortunately for MT, FAU is poised to have an even bigger season in 2008.

The Owls return 18 starters, including eight players that were named to either the All-SBC first or second teams. Among the key returnees include: SBC Player of the Year quarterback Rusty Smith, wide receiver Cortez Gent (1,082 receiving yards, second-best in the SBC), tight end Jason Harmon (825 receiving yards, best among SBC tight ends), defensive back Tavious Polo (the only freshman named to last year's All-SBC team first team due to his seven interceptions) and linebacker Frantz Joseph (SBC-leading 131 tackles).

The Blue Raiders look as though they will be outclassed on both offense and defense in this one, but it is a home game and one can never discount home-field advantage. Still the Owls should put MT away with the combination of an efficient offense (only 11 interceptions and four fumbles lost in 2008) and a smothering secondary (an SBC-leading 19 interceptions)

FAU 35-14

*This is part one of two articles that will outline the 2008 MT Football season. Please read Thursday's issue for the next half of Sidelines' football preview.*

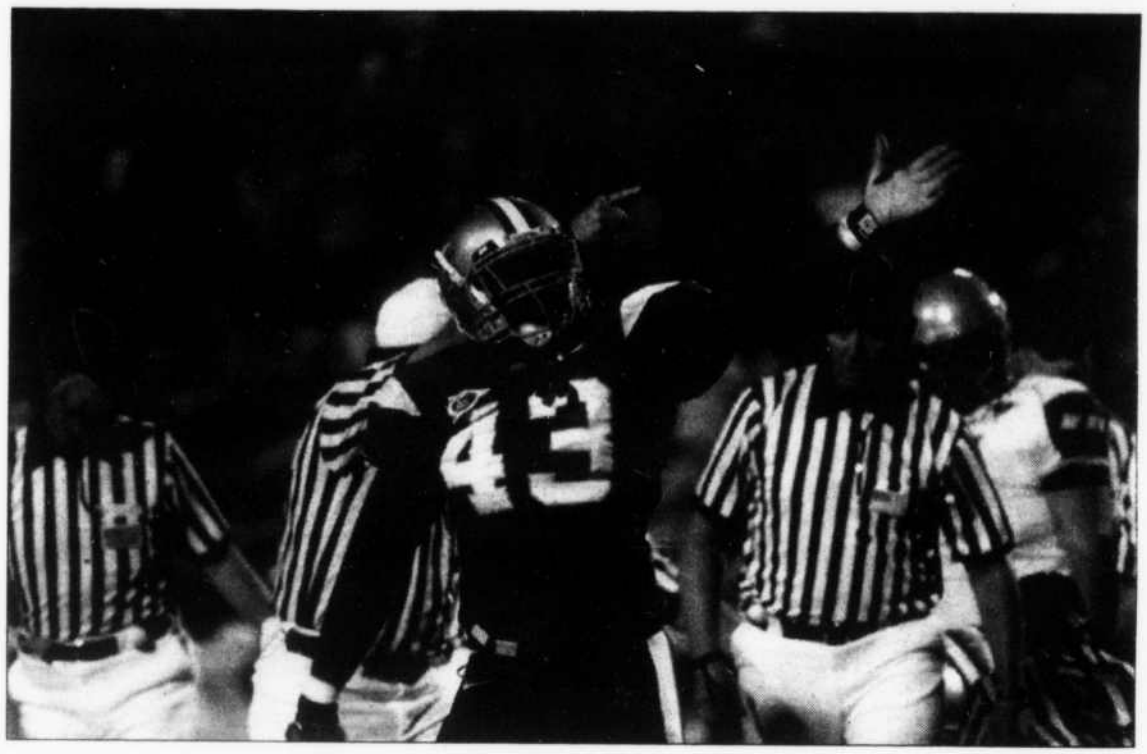

Photo Courtesy MT Media Relations

**The defensive line will have to holes to fill after the departures of Erik Walden and Tavares Jones.**

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# Bengles practice 'Bungle' ways

**Outside the Pocket**
**Chris Martin**

The Cincinnati Bungles have done it again.

In case you've been too enthralled by Michael Phelps's super powers to take notice, everyone's favorite team with the tiger-striped helmets has added another item to its portfolio of disaster.

Wide receiver Chris Henry—who only four short months ago was released by the Bungles after being suspended by the NFL for the first four games of the season when he added a new entry to his lengthy rap sheet—laid down some fresh ink on a clean-slate contract with the same team that had disposed of him just last quarter.

This is Henry's second multiple-game suspension—he sat out the first eight games of the 2007 season due to legal troubles. Unfortunately for the Bungles, the usual haven for legal-embattled, league-suspended players, the Dallas Cowboys, must have had the "No Vacancy" sign lit up, and when top receivers Chad Johnson and T.J. Houshmandzadeh got injured, the Bengals needed some insurance at wideout.

But wait, Bungles' president Mike Brown had some very strong words concerning Henry following his release. He, like NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell, seemed awfully fed up with Henry's shenanigans.

"Chris Henry has forfeited his opportunity to pursue a career with the Bengals," Brown said. "His conduct can no longer be tolerated."

Now unless Brown was misquoted and actually said Ben-gals, the Bungles' cheerleading squad, and not Bengals, the football team, then Brown must be eating a healthy diet of crow this week. One moment, Henry has used his last chance, and a short while later he's welcomed back with open arms.

But this whole saga shouldn't surprise anyone—these are the Bungles after all.

This is the same organization that saw defensive backs Johnathan Joseph and Deltha O'Neal, defensive linemen Frostee Rucker and Matthias Askew, linebackers Odell Thurman and A.J. Nicholson, offensive guard Eric Steinbach, running back Quincy Wilson and wide receiver Reggie McNeal all get arrested in the same 14-month span.

Not all those players are still with the Bungles. Nicholson, Askew, McNeal, Wilson, Thurman and Steinbach are no longer with the team, but, in reality, the first four's main offense was a lack of skill. Nicholson has never recorded a tackle in an NFL game. Askew hasn't appeared in an NFL game since 2005, McNeal plays in the Canadian Football League and Wilson has two career rushing yards.

Thurman was just dead weight for the franchise considering he's been suspended since 2006.

Steinbach, on the other hand, wasn't retained not because the Bungles were embarrassed by his boating under the influence arrest, but because in 2007 the Browns gave him one of the richest contracts an offensive lineman has ever signed, seven years, $49.5 million.

Meanwhile, Joseph, Rucker and O'Neal are on the current roster despite arrests for marijuana possession (Joseph), spousal battery and vandalism (Rucker) and DWI (O'Neal).

All these arrests probably wouldn't be so talked about if the Bungles could win games, but unfortunately they suck not only at character evaluation, but also at assembling personnel.

Cincinnati has made the playoffs once since 1990, hasn't advanced in the playoffs since 1990 and has put together only one 10-win season since 1988. Also, since its last playoff victory in 1990, Cincinnati has finished with six or fewer wins nine times. In that same span it has finished with eight or more wins only five times.

Some people might complain that the Cowboys don't catch enough flack for signing troublemakers such as Adam Jones or Tank Johnson, but there are two major differences between the Bungles and the Cowboys: Dallas has shown that it knows how to deal with players that like to get in trouble (see: Michael Irvin) and it realizes the importance of winning.

From 1990 through 2007 while Cincinnati has won one playoff game, Dallas has won three Super Bowls. Dallas has also had won 10 or more games nine times, while losing 10 or more only five times.

In the end, the whole Chris Henry situation shouldn't surprise anyone considering Cincinnati's past. After all, it's those types of scenarios that make the Bungles the Bungles.

*Chris Martin is a junior journalism student and can be reached at slsports@mtsu.edu*

Photo Courtesy of MT Media Relations

# University initiates new tailgating policies

**STAFF REPORTS**

The Department of Athletics, in conjuction with Student Programming, have announced guidelines for the upcoming tailgating season. They are as follows:

The Walnut Grove will generally open at 7:30 a.m. on game day. University sponsored tailgate activities, including inflatables, begin four and one half (4.5) hours prior to kick off. Weeknight game activities may be adjusted due to classes.

Tailgate activities will cease two hours after the game unless otherwise announced and the area will close. MTSU officials will ask those failing to comply to leave the premises.

Persons remaining in the tailgate area after the game has commenced will be encouraged to vacate the area to attend the game with the exception of one caretaker. Uniformed officers will periodically patrol through the area.

No large containers or community/common drink dispensers are permitted. Any device or activity used to increase the consumption of beverages is prohibited.

Only portable radio/stereo units will be allowed. Any equipment requiring external-power sources is prohibited. Volume and the language in any and all audio recordings must be appropriate for all ages.

The use of gas powered generators must be approved in advance.

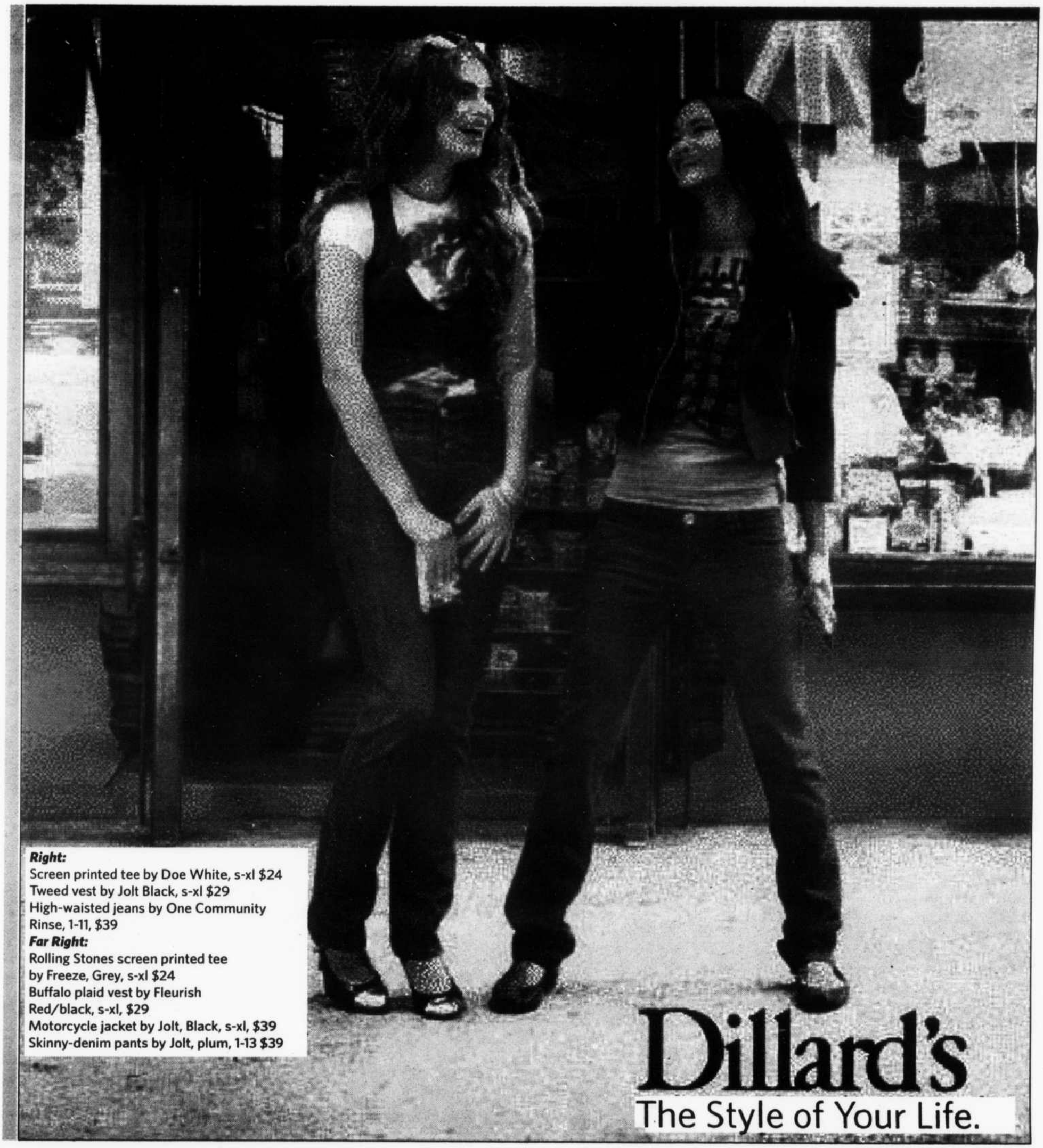
Platforms, stages and enclosed tents are not permitted in the tailgating area(s).

Soliciting or hawking of wares unless approved in advance by Student Unions & Programming and the Athletics Department is prohibited. Only MTSU Athletics or their designated representatives will be allowed to sell merchandise in the tailgate area.

For security reasons all tailgate equipment should be placed in vehicles prior to kickoff. In particular, any valuable items should be appropriately secured. One "caretaker" may remain at the tailgate site during the game to safeguard belongings.

Any violations of these guidelines may result in termination of tailgate privileges and, as appropriate, criminal prosecution and/or action taken through the MTSU Office of Public Safety, the MTSU Dean of Students or the Murfreesboro Police Department.

*A complete list of violations can be found online at mtsusidelines.com.*


Right:
Screen printed tee by Doe White, s-xl $24
Tweed vest by Jolt Black, s-xl $29
High-waisted jeans by One Community
Rinse, 1-11, $39
Far Right:
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by Freeze, Grey, s-xl $24
Buffalo plaid vest by Fleurish
Red/black, s-xl, $29
Motorcycle jacket by Jolt, Black, s-xl, $39
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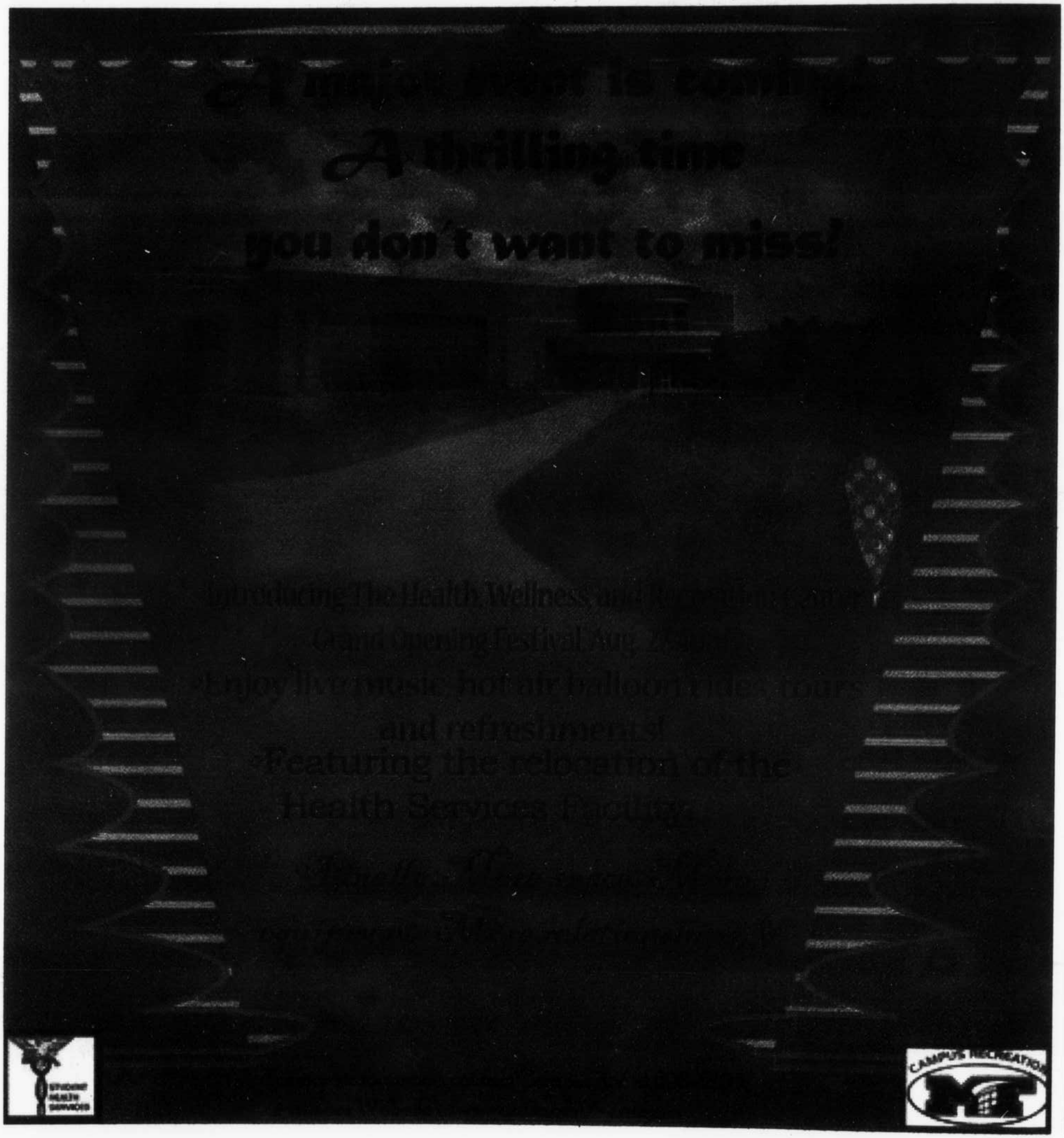
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